جوردان تايمز يومية بعاسية تصفي الإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية ،الراي،

WASHINGTON (R) - Boris Yeltsin is favoured over Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev by a margin of 70 per cent to 14 per cent to he leader of the Soviet Union, according to a poll of Soviets released by U.S. News and World Report magazine. Mr. Yeltsin, the leader of the Russian Federation, was overwhelmingly popular in Russia and the Baltic republics but not as popular Central Asia, the survey said. It was published in an advance edition on the magazine's Monday issue. The poll was taken from March 11 to March 25 by telephone and in person for the magazine by the Centre for International, Sociological and Marketing Research, a private research firm based in Moscow. It was conducted in all 15 Soviet republics. The survey also found that only 14 per cent of the 3,000 Soviet citizens questioned supported the Communist Party. If found that 81 per cent of those questioned were not satisfied with living standards in the Soviet Union while only 29 per cent believed that economic feforms would succeed. The survey has a margin of error of plus

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Afghan rebels say garrison town taken

ISLAMABAD (R) - Westernbacked Afghan rebels said they had Sunday captured the govern-ment garrison town of Khost, which has been under siege for most of the 12 years of the Afghan war. They said the town fell at the climax of a two-week offensive. The Kabul government said the rebels were helped by Pakistani troops, but Pakistan denied the charge. No independent confirmation of the guerrilla report was immediately available. If confirmed, it would be rhe first major victory by the Mujahedeen guerrillas since they captured Tarin Kot, capital of Uruzgan province in central Afghanistan. last year.

Iran wants envoys to visit Khoei

NICOSIA (R) — Iran protested to Iraq Sunday about treatment of its oationals there and asked for permission to send a delegation to visit the Muslim World's most senior Sbiite scholar, who it claims is under house arrest. The Iranian news agency IRNA said Iraqi Charge d'Affaires Fakhri Hamoud Al Dulaimi bad been summoned to the Foreign Mioistry a day after President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani urged Iraq to "free" Grand Ayatollah Abolgassem Al Khoei, Mr. Dulaimi heard a protest about the "Baghdad government's mistreatment of Iranian nadonals in Iraq particularly Grand Ayatollah Khoei and other (Muslim scholars)," IRNA added. Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and Consular Affairs Mojtaba Mirmahdi sought permission for an Iranian delegation to travel to Iraq to meet Ayatollah Khoei.

French soldier killed in S. Arabia

was killed in an explosion in northern Saudi Arabia, a Defence Ministry official said Sunday. Gerard Sudre, a noncommissioned officer, was bandling an unidentified device when it blew up Saturday, the official said. Sudre was evacuated to a French military hospital in the Saudi capital of Riyadh, but died the same day, said the official.

Tunisian group prepares manifesto

TUNIS (R) - A moderate splinter group from Tunisia's main Islamic movement is preparing the manifesto for a new political organisation, a leading member said in an interview published Sunday. Sheikh Abdul Fattah Mourou, who suspended his membership of the Nahdha movement earlier this month, told the government newspaper Al Sahafa that the new movement would try to draw a line between religion and politics.

Khaleda Zia to visit S. Arabia, Kuwait

DHAKA (AP) - Prime Minister Khaleda Zia will make an official visit to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait in April, a Foreign Ministry official said Sunday. It will be Mrs. Zia's first trip abroad since her Bangladesh Nationalist Party swept last month's parliamentary elections. Mrs. Zia, who took office on March 20, is the first woman prime minister of predominantly Muslim Bangladesh. The official said the government is finalising the schedule for Mrs. Zia's visit. He said she would leave after the 'Eid.

Withdrawal continues

RIYADH (AP) - The U.S. is withdrawing about 5,000 troops a day from the Gulf region while awaiting a permanent ceasefire with Iraq, military sources said Sunday. More than a fourth of the U.S. troops in the region have returned home and the number of soldiers remaining has dropped to under 400,000 from a peak of 540,000, the U.S. central command said. But the U.S. VII corps, with almost 100,000 troops, is still in occupied Iraq. Officials have said it will remain there until the United Nations approves a formal ceasefire, which could come as early as this week.

Iraq says Dohuk and Erbil retaken

agency dispatches

IRAQ SAID Sunday that it had recaptured the provincial capitals of Erbil and Dohuk from Kurdish insurgents. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said its correspondent in the area reported "the saboteurs bave fled towards the mountains, leaving behind them their weapons and supplies."

Kurdish rebels said Iraqi forces trying to retake the two provincial capitals pounded them Sunday with artillery, helicopter

gunships and warplanes, Iraq said its forces were greeted by singing, cheering peo-

"The people of Dohuk and Erbil received our armed forces with national songs and cheering President Saddam Hussein...,

Tens of thousands of people have fled the Iraqi shelling in Dohuk. Western journalists said Saturday that Kurdish guerrillas made up nearly all the people left in the city 50 kilometres south of

(Continued on page 3)

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iraqi

Prime Minister Saadoun Hamma-

di has pledged that his govern-

ment would work for political

reform after it crushed a rebellion

against the government of Presi-

But in his first major policy

speech since his appointment last

cracy could only be built upon respect for law — an apparent

reference to the turmoil in Iraq

"The present government-

...will undertake completing the

setting up of democratic institu-

tions in all fields, especially mat-

ters upon which our political sys-

tem is based - the constitution.

party, information and institu-

tions," he said in a speech carried

Dr. Hammadi also pledged his

government would begin an era

of reconstruction to repair the "not insignificant" damage

caused by the U.S.-led coalition

By Elia Nasrallah

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — At least one good

considered as a great blessing for

of an ancient city that had been

red city.

that the remains of a large section Simon.

to Jordan to shed more light on years ago."

discoveries as soon as the pre- amphitheatre.

ancient city huilt much earlier leased on Tuesday.

the new finds. The scholars, now

dent Saddam Hussein.

veek. Dr. Ham

after the Gulf war.

by Baghdad Radio.

in the Gulf war.

Hammadi pledges

to implement reform

Another rose-red

thing has come out of last week's team of excavators to help us

rain storm which wreaked havoc carry out the work at the site, but

and caused widespread devasta- we cannot at the moment reveal

tion in the southern governorates much about our work," according to

of Karak, Maan and Tafileh. Peter Simons, head of the three-

Jordan, new artefacts close to the remains of tombs, homes carved

Nabatean city of Petra have come in the rock, water channels,

to light in the wake of the storm. haths, paved streets, market

of Antiquities who preferred a vast building resembling the

anonymity told the Jordan Times treasury of Petra," said Dr.

concealed for ages were suddenly ledged the existence of visible

revealed after vast quantities of signs in the hilly regions north of

earth and rock were washed away Wadi Mousa like pottery shards.

and hurled down the canyon fallen stones, wall lines and other

within the boundaries of the rose elements, which indicated so long

According to the official, the were still buried beneath the

porarily sealed off the area, pend- The new site, he said, could be

ing the outcome of examinations part of the still concealed large

conducted by three noted site of a "more ancient Petra

archaeologists hurriedly invited which could have been built 3000

busy at the site, adjacent to Pet-ments of which only a part has

ra, revealed some of the facts been unearthed, he added, is a

about the finds, but promised a temple and a nearby terrace

comprehensive report about the which could be part of an

liminary examination has been. The Ministry of Tourism has so

The archaeologists believe that new discovery but officials who

sections of the ancient site io, declined to be named said that

question are indeed part of an more information could be re-

concerned authorities have tem- earth." Dr. Simon noted.

An official at the Department places used by the Nabateans and

Apart from the rain, which is member team.

city near Petra?

Iraqis take journalists to rebel-free Kirkuk

NICOSIA (R) - Western reporters visited the northern Iraqi oil city of Kirkuk Sunday and found it firmly in government hands. Cable News Network (CNN) reported.

Television pictures from Kirkuk showed damaged buildings. several bodies in a road, burned out cars and a truckload of cheerful Iraqi government soldiers. A local official told CNN's correspondent about 25 people died in the battle for the city.

Kurdish rebels captured Kirkuk, in mid-March. Baghdad announced its recapture on Thursday but rebel spokesmen abroad

claimed fighting continued. Edward Stourton of Britain's Independent Television News (ITN), also reporting from Kirkuk, said:

"We toured enough of the town today to be able to say with some confidence that the government's forces now control it

He said journalists neither heard nor saw anything to indicate that fighting was continuing.

Provincial governor Hashim Hassan Al Majid told reporters

there were few casualties in the battle because rhe rebeis had been defeated within two hours. "After a short time they ran away, fleeing outside the city like

rats," Mr. Majid said. Mr. Stourton said bodies filmed in a road had been so badly

burnt that it was difficult to say whether they were rebels or loyalists, soldiers or civilians.

Soviet foreign Describing the Kurds rebelling in northern Iraq and Shiite Musminister lim unrest in the south, Dr. Ham-

in China¹ high treason by stabbing their country in the back." BEIЛNG (Agencies) — Soviet "The sectarian sedition is brea-Foreign Minister Alexander thing its last after the perpetra-Bessmertnykh arrived in China Sunday ro prepare for the two them across the borders were countries' upcoming Communist crowned with shame," Dr. Ham-Party summit and discuss the madi added. post-war situation in the Gulf.

"The door is now open for a "I understand (my) visit is phase of reconstruction and regoing to be very good," Mr. form." he said. "Iraq's economy Bessmertnykh told reporters at will progress and grow, and Beijing's airport before being democratic life and law shall rewhisked away in a motorcade. "We have a very important programme to discuss."

Dr. Hammadi was appointed a week ago in a decree by President Mr. Bessmertnykh arrived Saddam, who had kept the ritle from Japan, where he also was prime minister himself since he making preparations for a sumcame to power in 1979. The new mit. Soviet President Mikhail government was sworn in Tues-Gorbachev is to visit Tokyo on

President Saddam pledged in a (Continued on page 5)

than Petra, which is believed to

have been carved in the rock by

the Nabateans nearly 2000 years

"We have engaged a small

"So far we have uncovered the

Archaeologists have acknow-

that many of Petra's monuments

One of the most striking monu-

far kept tight-lipped ahout the

madi said "then came the agents

of foreigners to commit national

Mr. Bessmertnykh was met by Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Tian Zengpei, but was nor scheduled to begin talks with Chinese officials until Monday morning.

It is Mr. Bessmertnykh's first visit to China since he succeeded Eduard Shevardnadze as foreign minister on Jan. 15.

In Beijing. Mr. Bessmertnykh will make arrangements for Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin's trip to Moscow in mid-May. He also is expected ro discuss the post-war siruation in the Gulf. the Korean peninsula and Cambodia, the official Soviet news agency TASS said.

Beijing and Moscow, bitter foes for three decades, are working towards better relations in the diplomatic, economic and military trade fields, diplomats said.

Mr. Jiang said in an interview published on Sunday: "In the past four decades and more. Sino-Soviet retations, described in one sentence, have gone through a tortuous path. What happened then are bygones."

Mr. Bessmertnykh will meet his Chinese counterpart Qian Oichen and Premier Li Peng Monday. He leaves on Tuesday. China said earlier this month it

would give a one billion Swiss franc (\$730 million) commodity loan to the Soviet Union to let it buy Chinese goods and ease economic hardship.

China in turn is extremely interested in huying Soviet arms, particularly the SU-27 fighter, diplomats said.

China has been shut off from Western military technology in relatiation for using the army to crush pro-democracy unrest in Beijing in June, 1989.

There has been speculation that China would buy about 20 of the fighters, estimated to cost about \$30 million each, paying in cash and goods.

Assad, Mubarak discuss post-war situation

CAIRO (AP) - Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Sunday held talks with President Hosni Mubarak on the post-Gulf war situation in the Middle East and other issues.

Mr. Mubarak greeted Mr. Assad at Cairo internacional airport and then gave him an official welcome ceremony at the presidential Kubbah palace.

The Egypoan president hosted a working iftar for his Syrian

Security arrangements in the region after the end of the Gulf war were likely to be the main issue the two presidents will dis-

Egypt sent 38,500 troops and the Syrians 19,000 soldiers to Saudi Arabia to join the U.S.-led allied offensive which forced Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait. Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia were at the forefront of Arab states which opposed the Aug. 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Earlier this month, the two countries, as well as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Oman agreed to create a joint peacekeeping force. Egypt and Syria are expected to field as many as 100,000 soldiers in the oew force, two-thirds from

In exchange for security, the oil-rich couotries will offer financial aid to the two states.

The duration of Mr. Assad's visit to Cairo was not immediate-

ly known. Syrian sources said Mr. Assad and Mr. Mubarak were likely to discuss the efforts of Iraqi rebels to oust the government of President Saddam Hussein as well as prospects for an Arab-Israeli set-

Syria restored ties with Egypt in December 1989 after a 10-year break resulong from Cairo's decision ro make peace with Israel.

Kuwaiti opposition hardens demands

KUWAIT (R) -- Kuwaiti opposition leaders hardened their demands in negodations on a post-Gulf war cabinet this weekend. calling for a review of multimillion dollar reconstruction contracts signed during the crisis.

Opposition activists and diplomats said opposition leaders demanded the review Saturday during talks with Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, who had been expected to announce a new cabinet last

The 15 opposition leaders once again made clear to the crown prince, who is also prime minister. that they would not join his cabinet unless a clear date for parliamentary elections were set.

"Our leaders demanded the formation of a representative committee of Kuwaitis known for their integrity and honesty to reconsider all contracts signed during the occupation." opposition lawyer Salah Al Hashem told

The emirate's oil-rich government-in-exile signed reconstruction deals with several Western firms during the sevenmonth Iraqi occupation

Preliminary estimates put the cost of rebuilding the emirate and repairing the damage inflicted on its oil industry by fleeing Iraqi troops at more than \$50 billion.

Mr. Hashem said opposition groups, united by their common demand for democratic reforms, feared a select few from the ruling Al Sabah family, mainly ministers, could have been made local partners in projects awarded

According to the emirate's law. foreign companies must have Kuwaiti partners holding at least 51 per cent sbare.

"Consistent with what they see as government corruption, they made the demand at the Saturday meeting." one Western diplomat

Gaza leaders in Cairo for talks on council

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Three leading Palestinians from the occupied Gaza Strip have gone to Cairo to seek economic aid and Palestine Liberadon Organisation (PLO) approval to set up a local council in Gaza City, Israeli sources and Palestinians said Sunday.

The three left Thursday. Israeli military authorities said the trip was aimed at raising Arab money for new bousing and economic development in the crowded, impoverished strip.

But Palestinians said the delegation would also seek PLO approval for one of the three, Faez Abu Rahme, former head of the Gaza Bar Association, to become mayor of Gaza City at the head of a local council.

The other two Palestinians are brothers Akil Mattar, head of the engineers association, and Akram Mattar, director of an Israeli-run eye hospital in Gaza An Israeli official told Reuters

last week the government was considering making life easier for Palestinians in the occupied territories. He did not give details but Israeli newspapers reported a Gaza City council was one possibility.

Easing restrictions oo the Palestinians in the occupied territories could be part of symbolic confidence-building gestures the United States wants Israel and Arab states to make as a step. towards peace talks.

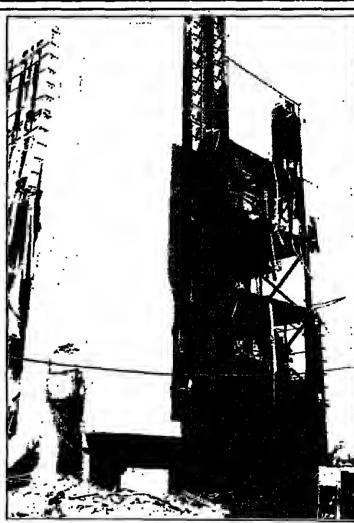
The last Gaza City mayor resigned at the start of the Palestinian uprising in December 1987. Since then the city has been run by an Arab city manager and Israeli military authorirles.

Israeli officials have recently

held talks with Palestinians on improving services and establishing a local government in Gaza City which is acceptable to tbe residents.

The Islamic fundamentalist (Continued on page 3)





The allied bombing targetted not only sophisticated telecommunication centres in Baghdad (right) but also basic facilities such distribution networks (photos by Mariam M. Shahin)

Iraqi group set up to coordinate relief supplies faces awesome task

'What happened here is unimaginable,' director says

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

By Mariam M. Shahin

The writer has just returned from a week-long working visit to Iraq.

BAGHDAD - Physical evidence of the American-led bombing of this city which lies between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers is abundant. In every district of this city of four million people almost all buildings which took care of public services lie in ruins. In most neighbourhoods there is at least one bloc of civilian homes which was hit, proving that this war was not as precise bombing as claimed by the allied

But the rebuilding of the city's and country's infrastructure to ensure that its citizens

have the basic necessities as defined in the U.N. Human Rights Charter is an awesome task. To know the extent of the damage and what exactly is needed for rebuilding is a question which as of yet cannot be answered by Iraqi officials,

"Since there are no communications, it is rather difficult to know what is working and what is not," says Dr. Riad Al Qaysi, under-secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who has been assigned the task of heading a fact-finding committee for coordination of re-

tration of relief organisations which feel that duplication of certain relief supplies is stunting their efforts. Dr. Qaysi admits that duplication may very well take place because "no one knows what is needed and where." The task of the Relief Supp-

Trying to dampen the frus-

ly Committee will be to come. up with estimates of what has broken apart, where and to determine the needs of the population according to their location and resources available in these areas. The number of children in a given area would indicate how much "baby-milk formula" is needed in a certain district, to name just one example.

Shifting populations — a result of the war and internal unrest for which the war opened the door — will also bave to be considered. The population of many Baghdad suburbs is reported to have risen since the unrest in the south began March 6. The number of Iraqis displaced by the occupation by American forces of 15 per cent of Iraq's total land area has also not been determined yet.

The government, which is readjusting to an opening up of the internal political system. cannot give the countless nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) that are in the any

ملذا منه الأصل

Catholics mark Easter with plea for Mideast peace

1Agencies) — The Church of the Holy Sepulcher was lit with hundreds of candles and filled with the perfume of incense as Christians praved on Easter Sunday to mark the resurrection of Christ

The Roman Catholic patriarch of Jerusalem, Michel Sabbah, said mass in the venerated Crusader basilica for several hundred Arab Christians and small groups of Western pilgrims.

He later told repotters that the message of Easter was one of peace for the Middle East, so iccently forn by the Gulf war. We need no more bloodshed." Patriarch Sabbah said, "We need to realise all peaceful

and just ways. Patriarch Sabbah, the first Arab to lead the latin church in the Holy Land, also urged Israeli leaders to come to terms with the Palestinians in the occupied West

Bank and Gaza Sinp. He noted that the Jewish celebration of Pesach, or Passover, which hegan last Friday, marks the deliverance of the ancient Hebrews from slavery in

Egypt.
The message of Pesach is a message of liberation for all people, for the Israeli people and the Palestinian people as well," he

said. "This means courage and means not to be afraid of peace." A similar Easter appeal came from the Greek Catholic Patriarch of Jerusalem, Lutfi Laham.

"The message of the feast of Easter is of redemption, freedom, joy and happiness, peace and stability." Patriarch Laham said. "Our people are looking for a genuine Easter so that our country can rejoice in peace and happiness.

On Sunday, the army lifted the blanket curfew it had imposed Friday on the Gaza Strip.

Curfews also lifted in most of the West Bank.. although residenis of about a dozen towns and refugee camps remained confined to their homes, the army said.

Palestinians again were allowed to resume their jobs inside Israel, but only if they had special army travel permits.

The Church of the Holy Sepulcher, built over the sites where tradition holds Christ was crucified and buried, is the focus of Easter week celebrations.

It was especially busy holiday because while the Latin churches were celebrating Easter Sunday, the Onhodox rites marked their Palm sunday. The Orthodox, observing the Julian calendar. will observe Easter next Sunday.

Patriirch Sabbah led worship-

ers, each carrying a single beeswax candle. in a celebratory procession around the brass and marhle sepulcher in the centre of the

international order.

Addressing about 150,000 peo-

ple in St Peter's Square and mil-

lions more in over 50 nations

watching on television, the Pope

asked them to "rejoice in this day

of light, strength and hope, which

makes the darkness menacing the

has cast a shadow over the whole

human community — when a choice was made of aggression

and the violation of international

solve the tensions between the

peoples by war, the power of death," the pontiff said, speaking

from the red-draped central bal-

cony of St Peter's Basilica.
"I address myself to you, the

leaders of nations. Only upon an

international order in which law

and freedom are indivisible for all

can the society we all hope for be

time, to the long-ignored aspira-

tion of oppressed peoples, such as

the Palestinians, the Lehanese,

The Polish-born pontiff deli-

vered his twice-yearly "urbi et

orbi" (to the city and the world)

message after celebrating an

open-air Easter mass in the

square under a cold grev sky. He then wished the world a

happy Easter in 54 languages including Arabic, Urdu, Tamil,

Swahili, Ukrainian and Albanian.

multi-party elections after more

than four decades of hardline

Stalinist rule and its Christian

community, persecuted by the

communists, celebrated Easter

"I am thinking also of you,

The Pope said the nations of

Africa, Asia and Latin America

needed more support in their

struggle for greater freedom and

He said that "from the Baltic to

the Mediterranean, and in other

areas of the world," the demands

of people for respect of their

identity and rights had not always

The Pope has repeatedly

voiced his support for Lithuania's

efforts to gain independence from

the Soviet Union, which Presi-

dent Mikhail Gorbachev has de-

Ukrainian Catholics, Cardinal

Myroslav Luhachivsky, returned

home Saturday after more than

half a century to rehuild a church

But the exiled head of the

been answered.

nied them.

for the first time in 24 years.

dear Catholic community of

Albania," the Pope said.

Albania on Sunday held its first

"Lend an ear, humanity of our

founded," he said.

the Kurds," he said.

When it was presumed to

"Darkness which also recently

At one point, Patriarch Sabbah's procession had to pause while Armenian Orthodox paraded into the church for their Palm Sunday rites.

The visiting Russian Orthodox patriarch of Moscow, Alexi II, oined Greek Patriarch Diodoros II in Palm Sunday prayers at the

Patriarch Sahbah, in a long pink robe, marched with clergy through the wind-swept cobbles-tone alleys of the walled old city sacted to Christians, Jews and Muslims.

The church's Muslim doorkeeper. Wajeh Nusseibeh, said less than a thousand worshippers were there, compared with 4,000 in the years before the Palestinian uprising erupted in the occupied territories. The uprising is now in

its fourth year. Christian pilgrims said they were celebrating a time of

'I'll treasure this forever. I think people should come regardless," said Stephen Harrison, 21, a U.S. soldier from Washington, serving with peacekeeping forces in Sinai.

He and his comrades stared in awe at the traditional tomh in the centre of the majestic church and some kissed the stone of annointment where Jesus' hody was prepared for hurial.

Some pilgrims were confused by the hodge-podge of priests in multi-coloured robes marching in procession to commemorate the resurrection while hymns echoed in the domed chruch.

The Greek Orthodox and the Armenians carried plants. Easter Sunday for them and most resident Palestinians comes next Sun-

Israeli soldiers and children milled outside the fourth century church on the sunny, warm day. "I didn't feel uncomfortable. Actually I feel better seeing sol-

diers around. At the Mount of Olives we got stones thrown at our car," said George McEachern, 40, of Toronto, Canada. This is the holiest city in the

world, but there is such strife here. I do have hope. I pray for peace," he said.

Papal appeal

In the Vatican, Pope John Paul in his Easter Sunday message hit out at the death and destruction of the Gulf war, condemned oppression of peoples in the Mid-

Palestinian doctor reports Israeli abuse in occupied territories

A NOTED PALESTINIAN urologist, arrested at the end of the Gulf war on suspicion of preparing leaflets endangering state security, said he was physically abused during interrogation.

Dr. Mamdouh Acker, 47. who practises at Makassed Hospital in East Jerusalem. was arrested Feb. 27 and kept in the Ramallah military government complex until March

In a public statement from prison, through his attorney, Jonathan Kuttah, Acker said he had suffered "isolation, sleep deprivation and threats.'

Kuttah said Acker told him he had been deprived of sleep for 60 consecutive hour periods, and had heen handcuffed hehind his back, with a sack over his head in a tiny

Last week, B'tselem, the human rights organisation, said that abuse of this kind was during General Security Services interrogations, and demanded an independent commission of inquiry.

Acker, who is close to leading Palestinian activist Faisal Husseini, has frequently addressed Israeli groups and spoken out on behalf of

During the war, he was one of seven Palestinians who signed a stinging attack on European Community for supporting the U.S. in the Gulf war and for offering more aid to Israel, for damage suffered in missile attacks, than it was offering Palestinians, - The Jerusalem Post.

Amnesty report

Israeli media had quoted official Israeli sources as saying he was being interrogated in relation to disturbances, the issuing of leaflets hostile to the authorities and contacts with illegal organisations.

Dr. Acker is known for baving publicly promoted dialogue between Palestinians and Israelis aiming at a peaceful solution to their conflict. He has contributed such views in newspaper articles and meetings. He has also heen active with the Association of Israeli-Palestinian Physicians for Human Rights, set up in March 1988 to focus on the medical aspects of human rights violations in the occupied territories, and with the Palestinian Centre for the Study on Non-Violence, founded in January 1985 to promote non-violent

Amnesty International telexed the Israeli authorities on March 5, requesting information on the exact reasons for Dr. Acker's detention and his current legal status. The organisation feared he might have been detained solely for his non-violent political opinions and activities, as well as for his human rights activities.

"He should be released immediately and unconditionally if that is the case," Amnesty International said.

The organisation said if there was evidence suggesting Dr. Acker had heen involved in violence, this should be produced and he should be given an adequare opportunity to challenge his detention, including by having prompt access to

In recent months several Palestinian figures known for their public promotion of a peaceful solution to the Palestinian/Israeli conflict have been arrested. They include Dr. Ahmad Al Yazji, another physician active with the Association of Israeli-Palestinian Physicians for Human Rights, who was given a one-year "administrative detention" order in November 1990.

Explosion rocks Kuwait City on Easter

KUWAIT (R) - Kuwait's tiny Christian community celebrated Easter Sunday but a nearby mine Gulf war and the seven-month Iraqi occupation.

The Easter service had just ended when allied soldiers, sweeping the mine-littered Kuwait shoreline, detonated an Iraqi mine in a controlled explosion. rocking the church.

Several hundred people, mainly Filipinos and Indians with a granting to this region the gift of

scattering of Westerners and allied servicemen and women, had filled Kuwait City's only Roblast was a noisy reminder of the man Catholic church for the ser-

> On worshipper, a woman soldier wearing combat fatigues, rested her M-16 rifle against the pew as she knelt down and prayed in the large, sparselydecorated church.

"We should thank the Lord for

peace," the priest said in his sermon. "Praise the Lord for helping us during the past months of captivity.

Kuwait's pre-war foreign population of more than a million included many Christians from the Philippines, Sri Lanka, India, Lehanon, Egypt and Western countries

Most fled after last August's Iraqi invasion and the Christian community dropped to a few

Shifting roles of Israeli army make it difficult for its_chief

By Allyn Fisher The Associated Press

TEL AVIV - During Dan Shomron's four years in command of the Israeli army, his soldiers spent most of their time fighting stone-throwing children in the occupied terri-

Iraqi missiles fell on Israeli cities in the Gulf war, hut Israel stayed out of the conflict at Washington's request.

"I don't feel any great sorrow." Lieutenant-General Shomron said about ending his tour as chief of staff Monday and turning the job over to Ehud Barak.

Gen. Shomron, 54. made his name leading the rescue of hijack hostages from Entebbe. Uganda, in 1976. His frustrations mirror the changing image of Israeli soldiers from the heroes of wars and daring missions to a force primarily involved in policing the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Motivation remains extremely high despite the changing role, and Israel's troops have the hest in high-tech weaponty. Most guerrilla infiltrators are killed or captured well before reaching their

targets.
The public has shaken off its blind trust in the army and demands explanations when things go wrong. Military censorship has been relaxed, so more dirty laundry gets washed in public.

Israel's revered air force is convulsed by a scandal involving millions of dollars pocketed by a brigadier general from improper dealings with U.S. year prison term.

Hirsch Goodman, a military analyst and editor of the English-language Jerusalem weekly, said the case "cost the army a public sense of its sanc-Some commanders say the

army is subject to closer scrutiny than in the days when Israel fought for its "exist-

When Gen. Shomron took over in 1987, he intended to reduce the bureaucracy and focus his limited resources on rebuilding "a small. smart army" that could implement Israel's hallowed doctrine of carrying the hattle swiftly into enemy territory. Eight months later, the Palestinian uprising began. Money had to he diverted from weapons projects to paying for extra reservists to police the occupation, and research concentrated on developing new riot-control equipment.

There were agonising trials of soldiers who bear protesters to death. The soldiers claimed to be acting on orders, hut their commanders denied it.

To the public, the trials suggested lack of leadership and unwillingness to take responsibility for actions.

"Fighting against women, children; when an army gets into a situation like that, it is a real problem." Gen. Shomron conceded this month on Israel

He takes credit for resisting pressure from political hardliners to apply even greater force

arms suppliers. The offender. against the Palestinians. The general salo ne learneo a loi from Vietnam about what happens when an army loses support at home.

"I did the best I could to keep our ethics intact." he

In the Gulf war, Israel suppressed its eye-for-an-eye instincts and absorbed 18 missile attacks without retaliating.

The policy won international praise, but left Israelis feeling vulnerable and dispirited hy the experience of sitting at home in gas masks, powerless to do more than pray.

Gen. Shomron has said "our fingers were itching," hut also argues it was wise to stay out of the war and that Israel "gained" because Iraq, Jordan and the Palestine Liheration Organisation - were "weakened."

Now the public is upset again, this time by allegations that many of the gas masks distributed on Gen. Shomron's orders were substandard.

He denies the charges hut also insists that, with its limited budget, the army must give priority to developing new tanks rather than better gas masks.

"The real threat we face is an invasion by ground forces backed by airplanes," he said. "If that ever happened, everyone would forget about even discussing threats from Scuds."

Summing up, military analyst Avi Benavahu wrote in tbe daily Al Hamishmar: "Our outgoing chief of staff has faced some dark times, a particularly difficult period for

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Iraqis continue to flee to Iran

NICOSIA (AP) - An Iranian official said Saturday that 45,000 Iraqis fleeing the unrest in their country had escaped to Iran, and that many of them were suffering from starvation or acute malnutrition, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. Ahmad Husseini, described by IRNA as only an "interior ministry official," said that many of the refugees, who continue to stream across the border into Iran, were under medical care. IRNA quoted hun as saying that 4,000 expatriates from Iraq had also arrived in Iran. International organisations affiliated with the United Nations have agreed to grant \$3 million to Iran for every 100.000 refugees boused there. IRNA quoted Mr. Husseini as saying. He added that Kuwait had given \$10 million in compensation to Iran for every 100.000 refugees boused there. tion to Iran for Iranians who fled the emirate after the Aug. 2 Iraqi invasion. IRNA said that a number of expatriates in Iraq had converged on the Iran-Iraq border, and were awaiting permission to enter Iran.

Ships rescue Sri Lankan vessel

RIYADH (AP) — Three U.S. and two British ships sped to the rescue of a Sri Lankan merchant vessel Friday night to put out fires in her engineering spaces and her superstructure, the U.S. central command reported. Minor injuries were reported to three Sri Lankan crewmen. They were transferred from the merchant vessel, the Mercs-Horana, to the British frigate, HMS Brilbant, for treatment and were reported in stable condition. The Mercs-Horana reported a fire while travelling in the southern Arabian Gulf. The U.S. navy frigate, USS Francis Hammond, arrived on the scene 30 minutes after a call for assistance was made, joining the HMS Brilliant and the British motor vessel, SS Victoria. Officials from the Francis Hammond reported fires in the engineering spaces of the Mercs-Horana and said that hersuperstructure was engulfed in flames. A six-man firefighting team was sent from the Francis Hammond to the merchant ship via small boat to join teams from the Brilliant and Victoria. Later, more firefighters joined the all-muht effort and put the fires out after nearly 11 hours. Two other U.S. navy ships, the USS Shasta and the USS Niagara Falls, resupplied firefighting foam and other equipment by helicopter. The Mercs-Horana was taken under tow by the HMS Brilliant and will be towed to Bahrain.

Turkish foreign minister to visit Romania

BUCHAREST (R) - Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Kurtcebe Alptemocin starts a three-day visit to Romania Monday to boost hilateral ties and regional cooperation in the Balkans and around the Black Sea. "We are going to look for and find a way to intensify our bilateral relations... we are concerned with bilateral relations, with Balkan cooperation and, in a broader sense, with European construction," Romanian Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase was quoted by the state news agency Rompres as saying. He said the two countries planned to discuss reviving a pre-communist friendship agreement dating from 1933. Rompress said the talks would also cover Turkey's proposals to create a zone of economic cooperation around the Black Sea involving Turkey, the Soviet Union, Romania and Bulgaria.

Rebels claim killing 2,400 Ethiopia troops

NAIROBI (R) — Rebels who control large areas of northern Ethiopia said at the weekend their forces had killed 2,400 government troops and shot down a MiG-23 fighter plane in operations north of the Red Sea port of Asab. Another 500 government troops were wounded, and 100 were captured, said th voice of the broad masses of Eritrea radio. The radio report, monitored in Nairobi, said Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) forces had achieved "brilliant victories" in fighting which continued until late Friday. The report also said a naval force of the EPLF had attacked five government naval vessels, putting one out of action, while the government ships were transporting supplies to the Dahlak Islands in the Red Sea. Ethiopian state radio had earlier announced that the Ethiopian air force had destroyed a rebel force trying to attack the port of Asab from the sea. It said the rebel attack was launched from the small port of Tiyo, north of Asah. The state radio did not refer to the land battle reported by the rebels. The rebels already control the port of Masawa, north of Asab, which they captured early last year. They have recently launched a new offensive apparently aimed at cutting off Asab to leave Ethiopia with no outlet to a deep sea port.

Rushdie's wife says they are to divorce

LONDON (AP) - American writer Marianne Wiggins, the wife of Salman Rushdie, said in a newspaper interview Sunday that the comple are divorcing because of what she called ideological differences. Mr. Rushdie, 43, has been in hiding under police guard since Feh. 14, 1989 when Iran's former leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, urged Muslims to kill Rushdie for his book "The Satanic Verses." Khomeini died in June 1989 but subsequent Iranian leaders say the order for Rushdie to be killed still stands. The daughter of a Scots-Irish father and Greek mother, Ms. Wiggins, 43, grew up in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. She married Rushdie in January, 1988. Each had been married before with one child apiece. The couple went into hiding together, hut in August 1989 Ms. Wiggins issued a statement saying they had separated in July, 1989. The weekly London newspaper the Sunday Times on Sunday quoted Ms. Wiggins as saying in the interview: "The last conversation I had with him was on Feb. I4 when I rang him just to recognise the passing of the anniversary of the fatwah." The Sunday Times reported that the divorce will be uncontested and there will be no financial settlement, since "as a feminist Wiggins does not believe in being supported hy an ex-hushand." The paper gave no other details about the ideological differences but quoted her as saying; "The great fallacy he committed was to think he was the issue. He never was. The issues were free expression and the racist society in Great Britain, and he did not come forward and speak. What he's been speaking for during the past two years is Salman Rushdie's career." It said Ms. Wiggins accused her husband of never once speaking out in the past two years for any of the hundreds of other persecuted writers around the world.

PLO refuses to surrender arms in response to Lebanese demand

BEIRUT (AP) - Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) will reject government orders to disarm all private armies in Lebanna by the end of next month, a PLO official said.

"No one will be able to take away our weapons either in South Lebanon or in the occupied terntories as long as Israel's occupation of nur land persists," PLO representative Zeid Wehbe said in a speech Saturday. It was published Sunday in Beirut news-

His speech at the refugee camp of Bourj al Shamali near the southern Lebanese port of Tyre was the first official PLO reaction. to the decision by President Elias Hrawi's government Thursday tn disband all inilitias.

The government set April 30 as a deadline for all Lebanese and foreign militias to hand over their aims to the state as part of an Arab League-mediated plan to end nearly 16 years of civil war in Lebanon.

The major Muslim and Christian militias involved in the civil war have accepted the government decision. However, past efforts to disarm Lebanese militias fell apart as arms were more often stored for future use than surrendered.

Lebanese context.

with the occupying enemy so close to our refugee camps that are under incessant Israeli attacks," Mr. Wehbe added.

Palestinian guerrillas were the

major force in the Muslim camp during the first seven years of the civil war, but Mr. Webbe said the PLO cannot be viewed just in a

"We tell them that we are not a militia and our arms are linked to regional and international considerations as long as the Israeli occupation of our land is in place." Mr. Webbe said.

"How can we lay down arms

He left a door open for negotiations with Mr. Hrawi's government for a compromise, saving: We are ready for a dialogue with the legitimate Lebanese authority that respects our legitimacy." But he gave no hint of what such a

compromise might mean. Mr. Wehbe spoke at a rally for Land Day, marking 1976 protests over land expropriation by Israel in which six Israeli Arah citizens

died in police gunfire. Mr. Hrawi has set up a ministerial committee to oversee the enforcement of the decision to dissolve all militias. Justice Minister Khatchik Babekian, a memher of the six-man panel, said it will hold its first meeting next Thursday and might set up a subcommittee to talk to the

Palestinians in South Lebanon. An estimated 6,000 PLO guerrillas remain at refugee camps near the ports of Sidon and Tyre in South Lebanon.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

637055

636730

PRAYER TIMES

.... (Sunrise) Duha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifich Tel. 810740 Assemblies of God Church, Tel. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation Tel. Terrasanta Church Tel: 622366

Anglican Church Tel. 625383. Tel.

Armeni 771331. 775261. Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771 64532ь.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-

Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932.

WEATHER

Bulleum supplied by the Department of

Some clouds appear at different altitudes and another rise in temperatures is expected. Winds will be southeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

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1751.	Jordan Valley	
Tel.	Yesterday's high temperature	s: Am-

NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY** AMMAN: Dr. Issam Al Asmar . Dr. Awni Hawamdeh

Amman 45 per cent, Aqaba 28 per

USEFUL TELEPHONE

Dr. Ratch Atallah (---] Khalileh pharmacy 985417 **EMERGENCIES** Food Control Centre Civil Defence Department

Civil Defence Immediate

Fordows pharmacy

Al Asema pharmacy Nairoukh pharmacy

Highway Police ... Traffic Police Public Security Department . 630321 Hotel Complaint 605800 Water and Sewerage Amman Municipality Central Amman Telephone Abdali Telephone Repairs ...

Jordan Television 661101 773111 774111

Civil Defence Emergence

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615 Electric Power Company
HOSPITALS
AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khalidi Majernity. J. Amn 644281/6 Akileh Maternity. J. Amn 642441/2 Jabai Amman Maternity 642362 Malhas. J. Amman 636140

667227/9

Shmeisani Hospital ... University Hospital ... Al-Muasher Hospital

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Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50	C301010Wer 100 / 140
Amai Hospital	Current (1
	Cucumbers (large)
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Zarra National Manie 1 (07)83323	Vaccs
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071	Eggplani
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732	Gardin 230 / 200
ROID:	Garlie 550 / 450
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555	Orapeinin
	260 / 200
The Al Nataration (02)272275	Lettuce (per one)
The Al Natees Hospital (02)247100	Marrow (Inner)
AQABA:	Marrow (large) 250 / 200
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111	MATERIAL ACO (AND
3 11141C(CO) 1111 (CO)214111	Omon (017)
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MARKET PRICES	Orange 340 / 220
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Upperflower price in fils per kg.	· veau
Oppie I Inn / eno	Radish 150 / 100
Dallaria	See 150 / 100
Banana (Mukammar) 450 / 400	Sage 400 / 300
Boans 900 / 800	Speriorn 140 / 80
900 / R00	Tometon

775111/26

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich ...

JPA board elects treasurer, secretarygeneral

AMMAN (J.T.) - The Jordan Press Association (JPA) board, which was elected on March 22, held its first meeting Sunday, under the chairmanship of its president, Hashem Khreisat, and elected a freasurer and a secretary-general as well as a deputy president.

A statement at the end of the meeting said that the deputy presideot is Abdul Hafiz Mohammad while the secretary-general is Omar Abanda, Fakhri Abu Hamdeb retains his post as treasurer. Ali Abu Tabanjeb and Suleiman Barmawi were elected deputies to rhe treasurer and secretary-

. The statement said that a disciplinary council of three members had been ser up, and a committee to take decisions on new association members had been formed. Another committee, set up Sunday, is the Health Insurance

Committee, according to the statement which said that the association board had decided to bold weekly meetings on Mon-Khreisat was elected JPA president unopposed for the second

consecutive term. He can no more nominate himself for another term according to the JPA costiration. Of the nine member group, three who represent owners of local press magazines and newspapers were elected unopposed while the remaining six members were elected by vote at the March 22 meeting.

Huge, glassy crater outside Amman baffles scientists -

-- By Ica Wahbeh Jordan Times Staff Reporter 10

AMMAN - A new discovery in Jordan, near Qasr Al Jilat, some 100 kilometres south east of Amman, in the middle of the desert. is bewildering the scientific community bere and giving way to speculation of the most spectacular kind. The "discovery," over wibich a shepherd grazing his sheep actually stumbled, is a buge crater, of about 600 metres diameter, with a perfectly rounded rim and completely devoid of

vegetation. The most interesting thing abont it, though, is the glassy aspect of the "crater." The sand was totally vitrified, making scientists believe that it must have happened under great pressure and very high temperatures, something similar to the boles left by falliog meteorites, but "under more accented heat and pressure," said Olaf Trikenson, professor of volcanology and meteoritical studies at the University of Reykjavik in Iceland, who is currently visiting the coun-

"It is nothing like a volcano. and very little like a meteorite trace," he said. "I could say it is a UFO's landing pad if I didn't know there had been no sightings of unidentified flying objects in Jordan," he added.
According to other scientists

who bave been to the site, there is "no life, nor vegetatioo" on the odd patch. Their opinions are varied, ranging from 'ancient settlement that bas disappeared because of radiation" (no track of any sort of rays have been found so far). bence the melting of sand and its glassy touch, to UFOs and to more down to earth volcano residue of a most interesting and unprecedented sort.

Dr. Trikenson said that be has already contacted his department at the university asking for a larger team to study this phenomenon and propose explanations for its origin. Jordanian officials meanwhile are sending their own group to investigate, and the team is likely to report back on their findings to Amman

Art exhibition to be opened

AMMAN (J.T.) - Under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Ali an embroidery and handicrafts exhibition will be opened Thursday, April 4. at Alia Art Gallery.

Ten per cent of the proceeds of the exhibition, which will last till April 12, will be donated to supporting the Palestinian intifada.



the Regent, Safurday tours the southern His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, affected by the rainstorm (Petra photo)

Electricity network completely restored in Karak Governorate

KARAK (J.T.) - The Karak district Electricity Anthority annoonced Sunday rhe restoration of power supply to all areas within the governorate of Karak and said all networks had been repaired and lines reconnected.

A spokesman for the authority bere said that high voltage supply had been resumed to Aiy, Ghor Safi, Sail Karak and Muta, all areas affected by the rainstorm and the floods in the past week.

Authority sources said that even the remote areas of these regions had their power supply

Electricity along with telephones, road communication, and other services were disrupted by the storm and teams from various ministries had been at work over the past week to restore life to normal and resume services to the public.

Minister of Public Works and Housing Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh was quoted as saying that it would take three weeks to restore road communications, but up to three months to rebuild the damaged bridges.

Karak was the governorate

worst hit, in the south, and the minister is preparing a full report about the extent of the damages and the help for the farmers, to be submitted to the Cabinet.

His Royal Highness Crown Prinee Hassan, the Regent, Saturday toured Karak, Maan and Tafileh, the three worst affected regions, and inspected tbe stricken areas.

At the same time, teams from the ministries of public works, the municipal and rural affairs and the environment, agriculture and water and irrigation are going ahead with plans to restore life to these areas.

A spokesman for the Agrienitural Credit Corporation (ACC) in the Karak region said that a corporation committee had embarked on a wide study of agricultural projects that have been financed by the ACC.

The spokesman said that the study was needed before the ACC would decide on assistance to the farmers who incurred losses and oo the question of rescheduling the farmers' loans.

prospect of helping farmers carry out maintenance and restoration work to their projects,

Secretary General ol the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), Dr. Abdul Aziz Wishah, said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the rainstorm had caused severe damages to irrigation canals in the southern Jordan Valley region as well as to dams and canals.

He said that the JVA had prepared an emergency plan to carry out repair work, and its programmes would be completed Wednesday. Officials from the Ministry of Education visited Karak schools in order to estimare the exteot of damages afflicted on them. At the moment, students and scouts from Karak Governorate are involved in an allout effort to remove mud and rocks from schools and conduct other voluntary work.

Teams and officials involved in the repair and restoration work within the three governorates up work.

were urged by Prince Hassan to The spokesman said that the ACC would also look into the coordinate their efforts and speed (ACC) is willing to offer long term loans to citizens wishing to

AQABA (J.T.) — Despite tea as well as containers laden barassment imposed by U.S. and allied naval forces on cargo ves- port over the past two days alone. sels heading for Aqaba, the port authorities Sunday reported an npsurge in the number of ships docking in the port.

For the first time since the start of the Gulf crisis, the port authorities reported the arrival there of a total 18 vessels carrying food. supplies and other merchandise ordered by Jordanian merchants. Ports Corporation Director General Awad Tal said in a statemenr that 18 vessels carrying sugar, frozen meat, barley flour,

Regent congratulates Iran

people further progress and prosperity.

cooperation in the parliamentary field.

Minister visits Maan, Aqaba

with various goods arrived in the It was only last week that the

Port authorities report revived activity

U.S.-led naval forces turned back a cargo vessel laden with goods imported from northern Europe. The ship was intercepted and directed towards ao Egyprian

A statement by the Jordan National Shipping Lioes (JNSL) said that the vessel was ordered to stop for search and inspection and later ordered to head for Suez, in Egypt, for proper inspection of the containers.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

AMMAN (Petra) - His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan,

the Regent, Sunday sent a cable to Iranian President Ali Akbar

Hashemi Rafsanjani congratulating him on the republic's day and

wishing him continued good bealth and bappiness and the Iranian

Prince Mohammad condoles families

Jordan, Morocco discuss cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad

Al Lawzi Sunday discussed with the Moroccan Ambassador to

Jordan Mohammad Al Taher Banani bilateral relations and

AMMAN (Petra) - Social Development Minister Yousef Al

Athem Sunday continued his inspection tour of the Maan Governorate and visited Aqaba district, where he met with

Aqaba District Governor Quftan Al Majali and reviewed with

him the social services in the district. Mr. Athem stressed the

importance of opening new social development centres in the

badia (desert) region and of increasing the volume of aid given to

the needy. Mr. Majali briefed the minister oo the losses inflicted

on private property as a result of the beavy rainfall. The minister

then paid a visit to the voluntary societies in the district.

Abu Taleb thanks for aid to People's Army

AMMAN (Petra) - The Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fathi

Abn Taleb thanked the University of Jordan for its contribution

of JD 8,184 to the People's Army. In a letter addressed to the University President Mahmoud Al Samra, Gen. Abu Taleb

voiced his pride in and appreciation of the university staff for their

noble national feelings. Abu Taleb also sent a similar letter to the

director geoeral of the Jordan Bank, thanking him for the bank's

contribution of JD, 6,133 to the People's Army. Gen. Abu Taleb

seor a third letter to Director General of the Ports Corporation

Awad Al Tal thanking him and the corporation's staff for their contribution of JD 14,391 in support of the People's Army.

AMMAN (Petra) - Ministry of Public Works has allocated JD

150,000 to continue work on maintaining and improving Deir Abi

Said-Iyoun Al Hamam road in Koura district. The district

Governor Aref Abo Karaki said work on this road would resume

Ministry allocates sum for road

this summer after floating the necessary tender.

The Ports Corporation director said that as long as the blockade continues, there will be a surcharge insurance on freight and the goods will have a higher price when sold in the Jordanian mat-

The Shipping Agents Association (SAA) said that the interception is being conducted in the Red Sea and the entrance to the Tiran Straits by vessels from the United States, France, Spain and Greece.

Aqaba once served as the main port for Iraqi imports, specially during the Iraq-Iran war.

Gazans

(Continued from page 1) group Hamas, supports efforts to set up a muoicipal council, the Israeli newspaper Haaretz said. Palestinians said Mr. Abu Rahme, who often meets visiting foreign government officials for talks on Israeli-Arab peace efforts, was acceptable to both Israelis and Gaza Palestinians bur

needed the backing of the PLO.

therefore the door is open for any

Baghdad said. Today Iraqi lorces attacked

'We saw about 50 captured

A Turkish newspaper reported Sunday that Turkish security forces entered Iraq Friday, chasing Turkish Kurdish guerrillas. The report in the Istanbul daily Hurriyet was denied by Premier

The newspaper had said 11 Marxist guerrillas of the Kurdish

The Kurdish group in Turkey has been fighting the government since 1984.

said Kurds were fighting against Iraqi troops to win autonomy but not for an independent state, according to a transcript of an interview released Sunday.

that the "timing of Mr. Bishara's statement was counterproductive at a time when Arab League representatives are meeting in Cairo to try to heal rifts and

PLO official blasts suspension of aid

Jordan silent on GCC decision;

aid. Jordan and the PLO have not

received any assistance from the

Golf states since the August 2 inva-

sion of Kuwait for their sym-

pathetic position lowards Iraq in

PLO oflicial Mohammad

Milhem said Sunday the "Palesti-

nian struggle is not for sale" and

repair strained relations caused Bishara but privately they say the by the crisis." move was not a surprise and The erisis caused a deep schism would not affect the country in the Arab World between the anti-Iraq camp, led by the Gulf Officials conceded that relastates. Egypt and Syria, and those tions with the Gulf states were opposed to the allied war -

the crisis.

Jordan, PLO, Sudan and Yemen. "It is a time for reconciliation and reconsideration of all our positions and not a time for such statements... we have to think differently and stop talking about money and funds and concentrate on the real dangers." Mr. Milhem

Mr. Bisbara, referring to the position of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat during the crisis, said: "Mr. Arafat took a very reckless course of action and will have to ated its democratie process... It is bear the consequences."

Mr. Arafat, analysts argue, could not take an anti-Irau or a clear-cut pro-Kuwait stand because he would have risked his political career in light of Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein's popularity among the Palestinians.
"The PLO position was correct

politically — against occupation of territory hy force and against denying the Kuwaiti people their right to self-determination - but we could not highlight the official position for political reasons," said Palestine National Council

(PNC) member Assad Abdul

"Palestinians sided with Iraq because it was against the U.S. Arafat and the leadership would have lost a great deal if they had taken a position contrary to the mood of the masses. This is politics," he added.

The GCC secretary-general refused to disclose the amount of aid suspended but the GCC states have long been the PLO's main financial backers and have also provided millions of dollars to Jordan as a frontline state with Israel.

Jordan, officially neutral, but publicly sympathetic towards Iraq. and against the allied war, will lose an estimated \$400 to \$500 million annually, Jordanian sources said.

According to PLO officials, of the \$1.5 hillion in Arab contributions the PLO has received since 1979, \$1 billion came from the Gull states, hut Mr. Milhem described the amount as "peanuts" compared to what the Gull states paid fur the war.

"Since the start of the revolution, the Gull states have given the PLO peanuts compared to the money they pouted into the wat treasury to destroy both Iraq and Kuwait...." Mr. Milhem said, He said the PLO was in a "very very difficult' financial position, but thanks to increased contributions to UNRWA tU.N. Relief and Wurks Agency) by the European Community and Japan, obligations to Palesunian tetugee camps continue to be met.

Jordanian economist Fahed Fanek, echoing the view of olficials and average Jordanians, said the Gulf states would not punish Jordan indefinitely.

"When emotions calm down,

the Gulf states will realise that it is in their best interest and security to have a strong and stable Jordan.... It will take time, Mr.

Fanek told the Jordan Times. Jordan, which has a staggering \$8 billion foreign deht, has lost. according to U.N. estimates, 30 per cent of its gross national product in 1990 and will lose 50 per cent in 1991 in the form of exports, higher oil prices, expatriate temittances, transit charges.

But economists say emergency soft loans and grants from the European Community and Japan, totalling about \$900 million, will cushion the economic blow this year, hut warn that the country will have to take harsh solutions to cope with the next few years.

A Iront page commentary in Al A front page comments.

Ra'i Arabic daily, accusing the shark mentality," said the Gull states "are wrong; they are mistaken because they are condescending.... hlind to the facts. ignurant of people's qualities and with nothing on their minds except money, money, money ...

'Jordan, which knows where it stood vesterday, where it stands today and where it will stand tomorrow, does not need the aid ol brothers. Not because Jordan is a rich and strong country. , but because its stands emanate from the depth of its national commitment which it will not change or ahandon," the commentary. signed by the editot, said

Sarcastically thanking the Gult states for their assistance. Al Ra'i said: "Take your money Gull brethren and may God keep you happy with your money... so you will be able to fund your patrons in Washington and London with your hillions of dollars."

ACC to grant loans to boost agriculture

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Agricultural Credit Corporation finance agricultural industries or to cultivate land and produce crops to help the country ensure food security, according to Man-sour Ben Tarif, ACC director

By Ghadeer Taher

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan officially re-

mained silent Sunday on the deci-

sion by the Gulf states to suspend

financial assistance to the King-

dom while the Palestine Libera-

tion Organisation (PLO) harshly

Jordanian officials refused to

comment on the statements by

Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

Secretary-General Abdullah

tainted with mistrust but do not

expect the Gulf states to maintain

such a posture for a very long

time and feel confident that at

teast for this year the country has

received enough emergency

assistance to cope with the cut in

Parliamentarian and former

minister Abdul Karim Kabariti said the GCC statement was "no-

thing new" and that the Gulf

states had already begun "de-

creasing their financial aid to

Jordan when the Kingdom initi-

a penalty for democratisation in

the country."

The GCC — Saudi Arabia,

Kuwait, Oman. Qatar, Bahrain

and the United Arab Emirates -

said it was suspending aid to

Jordan and the PLO because they

did not support the U.S.-led war

"No forgiveness, no forget-

ting," Mr. Bishara, a Kuwaiti,

said in announcing the halt in aid.

The announcement was only a

reaffirmation of an earlier un-

announced decision to suspend

criticised the move.

greatly.

Gulf aid.

against Iraq.

Ben Tarif said in a statement that such loans would carry an interest of seven per cenl, but could be repaid over 12 to 15 years, with a very reasonable grace period, depending on the production. "Settlement of loans in this

case could start after the project has begun production and the beneficiary started selling products," Ben Tarif explained in his statement to Al Ra'i Arabic dai-

The ACC director said that the plan aimed at encoutaging citizens to initiate agricultural industries so that the surplus vegetables and fruits could he processed and sold around the year to the local markets and other coun-

Since the beginning of 1991, Ben Tarif said, the ACC has granted loans to farmers, totalling JD 1.25 million, but the ACC has much more allocations, amounting to nearly JD 8 million, earmarked for loans during 1991; investor or farmet to benefit from these facilities.

Ben Tarif referred to the situation in the southern regions of Jordan, affected by the recent rainstorm, and said that farmers in those regions could apply for loans because they need the money for repair and for resuming farming work.

According to Ben Tarif, the ACC plans complement those of the Ministry of Agriculture. which has been directing farmers' attention to the production of wheat in larger quantifies due to the growing demand of this com-

Awwad Hita, director of Al Mushaqqar Agricultural Station, told the Jordan News Agency. Petra, that the government's nurseries and stations had been distributing improved types of seeds and fertiliser to the larmers in a hid to encourage them to grow wheat. He also said that the Ministry of Agriculture had been purchasing the locally produced wheat at prices higher than the international rate for the same

Mr. Hita said that the improved seeds had been sown on 32,000 dunums in Madaba district alone. He said that other areas too were trying the improved seeds, specially in the Jordan Valley region.

Arab organisations condemn Israel on Land Day

AMMAN (J.T.) - Two Ammanbased organisations Sunday issued statements in observance of "Land Day" in the occupied Palestinian land, commemorating the slaying, 15 years ago, of six Arabs in territory occupied sifice The Arab Organisation for Hu-

man Rights (Jordan hranch) said authorities "are pursuing their criminal acts against the Palestinians and have stepped up these acts in the past few days by deporting four Palestinians from the Gaza Strip and demolishing the homes of a number of Palestinian detainees."

"Despite the condemnation of Israel's actions in all countries and by all organisations, and despite calls for granting the Palestinians their human rights, the Israelis are pursuing their repressive measures," said the organisa-tion's statement.

The Atah Organisation for Human Rights, it said, calls on the world organisations and the Human Rights Committee at the United Nations to expose Israel's attocities and help the Palesti-nians regain their rights and homeland.

The other organisation was the Arab Youth Forum (AYF), which said in a statement here that the Palestinians had been deproved of the right to determine their fate on their own homeland, and that the Land Day was a reminder that the Palestinians are still denied the land they rightfully own.

The Arab Youth Forum urged the Arab youth to join efforts to help the Palestinians regain their usurped rights.

The 1.7 million Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip staged a strike Saturday marking Land Day anniversary; the Israeli forces were out in strength to prevent anti-Israeli demonstrations.

Iraqi official in Amman for talks on coordinating relief aid operations

AMMAN (J.T.) - An Iraqi offi- ceived from various countries. cial has arrived in Amnian lor talks on the channelling of relief supplies to the victims of the U.S.-led aggression on Iraq, and to coordinate work among humanitarian organisations taking chatge ol the process of sending the supplies to Iraq.
The olficial is Dr. Khaled

Abdul Hamid, from the Iraqi Red Crescent Society, who said he was spending several days in Jordan for talks with the concerned officials.

In a statement upon arrival Abdul Hamid said that consultations would be mainly with the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) which has been undertaking the main task of forwarding the relief supplies re-

ing help to Iraq. At the same time efforts at the popular and official levels are contributing to continuine sending relicf supplies to Iraqi victims of war.

Abdul Hamid said he would

take part in a conference, to be

held in Geneva, to coordinate the

work of relief organisations send-

A statement Sunday said that workers at the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) had sent a convoy of trucks laden with medicine and food supplies to

Head of the Workers Union Ahmad Al Haddad who is just back from a tour of devastated Iraqi regions, said that the Iraqis are in great need of assistance.

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The Joidan Times Sunday erroneously quoted a statement by the U.S. embassy here about a new advisory to American citizens coming to Jordan, in part attributing it to an embassy official when it should have been attributed to the statement itself.

The Jordan Times regrets the mistake. Furthermore, the Jordan Times bas just learnt that the embassy statement should have appeared under the title "Jordan -Caution" rather than "Jordan -

The statement, issued March 29. runs as follows:

The Department of State advises U.S. citizens considering travel to Jordan that, although diminished, the potential for incidents of violence against U.S. citizens or property still exists. The improved climate in Jordan has permitted the return of nonessential U.S. government personnel and dependents to our embassy in Amman. The situation remains fluid and can change without notice. U.S. citizens who travel to Jordan are therefore advised to exercise caurion and are encouraged to contact the embassy to register their presence and receive an update on the current situation."

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mobammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, Sunday delegated the director of his office to convey bis condolences to Retaken Al Abbasi and Al Daond family, over the death of Nafisah Yousef Daoud, mother of Mr. Daoud Mohammad Suleiman.

(Continued from page 1)

the Turkish border. Rebel spokesmen in London and Damascus denied the reported fall of Dohuk and Erbil,

120 kilometres sourheast. A spokesman for the Patriotic Uniou of Kurdistan said fighting continued in the two cities and near the key northern oil centre of Kirkuk.

Meanwhile, Iraq, in a message to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, denounced what it called provocative violations of its airspace by American and Saudi warplanes, INA said.

Iraq also complained in the message that American troops occupying sonthern Iraq were plundering the archaeological site ol Ur. Iraqi forces started a major

dish rebels in northeastern Iraq. Government troops moved against the Kurds in strength after they appeared to have largely quelled the rebellion by Shitte Mulsim rebels in southern Iraq. A week ago Kurdish rebels talked of setting up a provisional

offensive last week against Kur-

government in "liberated" Kurdistan. Now they paint a picture of bombardment by Iraqi forces, deteriorating living conditions and mass flight by civilians. Izzat Ibrahim, the deputy commander in chief of the Iraqi

armed forces, told President Sad-

dam Sunday that Erbil was fully

under government control, Radio

the towns of Erbil and Dohuk with air and artillery shellings. Helicopter gunships, fixed-wing aircraft and multiple rocket launchers were used indiscriminately," said the KDP's Zebari. A Western correspondent just

back from northern Iraq said the Kurds were handicapped by loose coordination and difficulties in making use of captured heavy weapons.

Iraqi jeeps, 10 tanks and half a dozen artillery pieces on the Zakho-Dohuk road, but the Kurds had been unable to move them for 10 days," he said.

Yildirim Akbulut.

Labour Party were killed in a clash in southeastern Turkey which spilled over into Iraq when the rebels tried to escape.

Kurdish leader Jalal Talabani

Mr. Talabani said it would be impossible to establish a separate, independent Kurdistan in the region. "It is a dream. It is not a realistic goal." he added. according to the Turkish state television transcript of the interview

Mr. Talabani said it was not possible to change the Middle East map and that the internadonal community opposed an independent Kurdistan on grounds it would lead to the division of Turkish government held sec-

ret talks with Mr. Talabani here

in early March to understand the

aim of the Kurdish move against

rhe Iraqi government. The talks

marked a dramatic switch in this

scheduled to be aired Monday.

country's Kurdish policy, which viewed Kurds as a major security threat for decades. Foreign Ministry spokesman Murat Sungar on Sunday confirmed reports by Turkish newspapers that another secret meeting took place with Kurdish

clined to give details. The government held talks with Muhsin Dizayi, a representative of another Kurdish leader Massoud Barzani on Friday, the reports said.

opposition leaders, but he de-

Mr. Dizayi visited Ankara, to ask for humanitarian aid, including food and medicine, reports

The Turkish government is reluctant to grant the request. Turkish officials argue that it is against international treaties to provide aid to rebel groups fighting against internationally recognised governments.

By Waleed Sadi

جَوْمَانُ كَايِنَ وَيَهِمُ عَرِيبَةَ سَيْلَتِهُ صَنَكَةً تُصَدِر بِالانجِلِيْةِ عَنْ الرَّحْمَةُ السَّفِيةِ الأَوْمَنِيُّ ``

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Facsimile: 661242

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On Israel as on Iraq

By Khalid Mahadin

IN YEARS gone by, we Arabs were right to demand the convening of an international conference through which to negotiate a political settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. By the same token, we understood why the Israeli enemy always rejected one, and why the United States stood firmly against any attempt to translate the

For in those days, there was a parallel power capable of balancing the U.S., the USSR. There was China, whose abhorrence of Washington and distaste for Moscow prompted it to champion the causes of the Third World. France in those days did not go nearly as far as it has done since in drawing closer to the U.S. As for Britain, its policy was then - as it remains - a carbon copy of that of America.

That is why the Arabs used to call for an international conference and Israel used to refuse. The Arabs were pressing for a political settlement to the conflict that would be just. The Israelis feared precisely such a settlement, knowing that they stood to lose by obeying international law, or hy acceding to the influence which the Soviet Union, China, and perhaps France, would have on steering the conference or formulating the settlement.

The picture now is entirely different. On one side stand the five permanent members of the Security Council, plus Israel and half the Arabs. On the other, at least from our region, stand only the Palestinians and Jordanians and the Arabs of the Maghreb. The Israelis and Americans have nothing more to fear from convening the conference. They can control its direction, decide what they like, and compel those who are demanding the implementation of international law and Resolutions 242 and 338 either to accept what is imposed on them, or reject the American-Israeli settlement. There will be no objections from Moscow or Beijing. France may suffice with signing on the dotted line in French ink rather than American ink, so as not to embarrass Itself.

In the light of all this, the call for an international conference given the existing balance of forces - is an invitation to an ambush. What we are hearing from the enemy camp these days about appropriate timing for a conference and the need for it to be prepared adequately may sound like violent rejection of the idea. But it is part of an American-Israeli game. The intention is that we be kept waiting a few weeks or months, and then we will be told that American pressure on Israel has succeeded, and it has been forced to accept the idea of a conference, even to attend it. We will hear loud applause from half the Arabs about this great transformation in U.S. policy, and we will be told how they have managed to undermine the American-Israeli strategic alliance with the new American-Arab strategic alliance which took shape in the Gulf crisis and the carnage inflicted on Iraq. Then an agreement will be imposed on us that is worse than Camp David.

The only way to confront this game is to demand that the international community, the U.S., Israel and all of those who claimed legal licence to slaughter the Iraqis, now demonstrate their respect for international law. Those who used U.N. resolutions against Iraq must impose Resolutions 242 and 338 on Israel with equal vigour. If they do so, we will drop our right to demand a mandatory economic embargo to starve the Israelis into submis-sion, let alone to mobilise 30 armies to wage war on them! The aim is to get those resolutions implemented, and we do not mind by what method. Or must we bear witness for the one thousandth time to the way international law can be circumvented when it can serve the just cause of the Arabs?

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

The world community has a duty towards peace based on international legitimacy, and it should not be left under the mercy of the Israeli extremists who dream of the so-called greater Israel and refuse the idea of stability, security and peace in the Middle East, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Sunday. In an interview with French television. King Husseing put forth, and advocated the principles which ought to be followed and implemented so that the aspired peace can be reached. The King warned against allowing the present chance to slip away and noted that Jordan is totally committed to reach peace and to help the Palestinians regain their rights in their own homeland, the paper noted. It said that the King has thus placed before the French and world public opinions Joidan's views, and he urged the Security Council to act immediately lest the peace opportunity he missed once again. The Kine specially urged the United States and its president to take steps towards ending the Arab-Israeli conflict and solving the Palestine problem. King Hussein said that it is time to make meaningful moves and to take practical steps towards peace through the implementation of Security Council resolutions, and warned against leaving matters to the will and whints of the Israeli aggressors, the paper pointed out. In his statement to the French television, the paper added the King stressed that peace is a right for all people of the world and that the Palestinians ought to be granted their rights and the peace to which they aspire.

A columnist in Al Dustour daily advocates the cause of the Jordanian expatriates who have now returned to settle permanently in the Kingdom after fleeing Kuwait. Mohammad Amin says that these expatriates have lost nearly \$8.4 hillion in terms of assets, property, homes and cash saved in Kuwaiti hanks as well as end of service compensation, etc. Most of these expatriates, the writer notes, are not returning to Kuwait where they spent most of their lives, but are now transformed into a needy group in dire need of government help. These expatriates whose money transfers to Jordan over the past two decades helped to stimulate the economy and boost the country's development and progress, are badly in need of government support not only to settle here but also to region their lost property and compensation as well as savings in the Kuwaiti hanks, which altogether can he a hiessing for the Kingdom that would benefit from such vast wealth. It is unreasonable to see these expatriates lose everything following years of hard work, and it is unreasonable that Kuwait, which had paid the United States and the allied forces more than \$13 hillion. and is paying much more to companies to rebuild Kuwait, ignore the rights of these expatriates whose efforts had built the Guif emirate in the past four decades, the writer adds. The writer calls on the government to take speedy action and contact the Kuwaiti government to ensure the rights of its citizens before it is too late.

Weekly Political Pulse

Thank you, no charity

A RECENT U.N. study reveals that 30 per cent of Jordanians are living under the poverty line and about 250,000 children under the age of 12 suffer from malnutrition. These are ohviously harsh indicators about the Jordanian economy that have been exacerhated hy the Gulf crisis and by the halt to Arab support even prior to the eruption of the Kuwaiti conflict. As a matter of fact, Jordan began to experience, economic and fiscal difficulties in the late eighties principally because the traditional inflow of aid from the Gulf region nearly dried up, causing unexpected disruptions in economic planning in the country. With the Gulf war now behind us and talk about removing the existing inequioes between the rich and poor states in this part of the world gaining currency, is it not high time to translate these noble aspirations into actions? There is no way that stability and security in the Middle East and Gulf regions can be attained as long as large pockets of poverty and deprivation continue to afflict some of the Arah peoples. During a recent visit to Jordan. Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark made specific reference to the growing gap between the rich and the poor in the Middle East and called for its rectification as part and parcel of the much talked about new order. Yet Jordan continues to be penalised even after the end of the Gulf war and deprived of emergency and normal aid from its traditional sources

for no reason other than having expressed another peaceful and rational point of view on how to deal best with the crisis in the Gulf region. Suffocating Jordan and Jordanians economically and politically is no wise and effective way to promote the new international and regional order that have been heralded in recent times with much fanfare. If the pockets of poverty in Jordan continue to increase as now projected and malnutrition among the children of Jordan persist, then the stage is set not for stability and security hut rather for instability and insecurity in the area. As the world turns a new page on the heels of the end of the East-West rivarly and is constructing a new internacional and regional order in the aftermath of the allied forces' war with Iraq, one wonders when will Jordan begin to receive the aid and support that it justly deserves? The talk of the international community is that Jordan played and continues to play a pivotal role in the quest for a permanent and just peace and security in the Middle East. The question that remains is how Jordan can conduct such an indispensable role with its children starving and its people falling

What exacerbate things for Jordan is the continued application of economic sanctions against Iraq, especially the ban on Iraq's export of oil. With most Jordanian trade and commerce still

oriented towards that country, there is no way that the wheels of industry will turn again at even modest speed without resuming full trade ties with Baghdad. And as long as Iraq is embargoed and deprived of opportunities to export its oil, it will naturally have no money to pay for Jordanian goods and services.

Lest it is forgotten, Jordan does not seek charity. What it calls for is temporary support till it is able to stand up on its feet again. There was a time just before the economic crisis when Jordan was well on complete economic recovery and economic selfsufficiency. Jordan and Jordanians never felt more proud in their lives than when they were on the threshold of economic independence. Yet unforeseen events both economic and political suddenly hit the country and with a vengeance. The construction of the hlocs of peace and security in the region would naturally call for a full participation of Jordan in such a process.. Investing in Jordan, therefore, is an investment in the new process that the countries of the world would want to usher into the Middle East and Gulf region. Those capitals of the world which express pious sentiments in favour of a new regional order for the Middle East, better rethink their perspective soon and begin the process of economic heeling throughout the region especially Jordan and

The road to spiritual reconciliation in Palestine

By David McDowall

Middle East International SINCE the Israeli-Palestine conflict owes so much to religious prejudice, the sceptic might he forgiven a wry smile on picking up Beyond Occupation (Beyond Occupation: American Jewish, Christian, and Palestinian voices for peace, edited by Roemary Radford Reuther and Marc H. Ellis. Beacon Press, Boston, Mass. 1990). But it deserves to be taken seriously. The editors have courageously attempted to set out. a plurality of viewpoints on the road to reconciliation between Jew and Arab in Palestine. As a result, almost any reader, whatever their position on the conflict, is bound to take issue with much of what the fourteen different contributors have to say. If this were not so, there would probably have been little point in producing this book. However misplaced some arguments may seem, the sincerity of the authors cannot be doubted, and without question a vital part in the process of reconciliation is the willinguess to consider what others have to say, and the readiness to change in the light of their arguments

Core of the dilemma

From ber feminist perspective, Judith Plascow puts her finger on the key stumbling block in this process. She calls it "otherness," meaning the inability or unwillingness to accord others, by gender, class, religion or ethnicity, the same value as ourselves. In her world women and Sephardi Jews lie outside the controlling, male Ashkenazi component of Israeli society, with its own divides between men and women, refugees and non-refugees, townsfolk, peasants and bedouin. "The struggle to find new models for relating to difference." she argues, "is a struggle to hring the manifold riches of a complex human heritage to the careful nurturing of communal and individual life." She is right to feel this matter keenly, for it is the core of the moral dilemma and a dreds of thousands of native profound challenge for all relidivine truth and their own course the cost was too high, but humanity. It is the litmus paper by which all the essays in this And what of a more obvious, book may be judged.

ascribed to both Arab and Israeli society in Palestine? The failure to empathise is a striking feature of one or two of the writers in this book. While anguished by the oppression committed against palestinians today, it is clear that a major concern of two or three Jewish and Christian contributors is the corrupting effect this oppression has on Israel, which they see as unique among the countries of the world in its moral

as well as political position. This state of mind leads dangerously to the application of a different set of moral principles. For Rahhi Irving Greenberg and a Christian contributor, John Pawlikowski, the Holocaust ex-perience justifies treating Israel as a special case. For Greenberg. "Israel has the right — and thus far it has the record — to act by a higher moral standard." It can lead to the assumption that Jews should be "more moral" than other people, while for Christians wracked with guilt over the Holocaust, there is a temptation to "make allowances for Israeli shortcomings that would not or should not be made for others.

Moral compromise

Greenberg accepts that all governments are involved in moral compromise, but in quoting the examples of Israel's shady dealing with South Africa and elsewhere he revealingly overlooks the most central issue that casts doubt on Israel's legislmacy, the way in which it was established through the dispossession of a large indigenous population. Greenherg gives his own chilling justification of genocide: "However, the United States of America was made possible in part by a systematic genocide of the Indians, over the course of centuries. This was shameful and it remains a permanent hlot on America's record, But did anyhody suggest that the cost was too high and it were better there had never been a United States?" Well, Rahhi Greenberg, I am sure that hun-Americans thought so hefore gions which, largely in male they perished, but if not, I am hands, assume a superior hold on quite prepared to be the first. Of the clock cannot be put back. immediate and painful example?

Are we to deduce that Greenberg believes that the Third Reich's genocide of Jews. Slavs and Romanies did not destroy its legitimacy?

One need not be surprised that Greenberg believes that while in theory the Palestinians have a right to self-determination, in practice they do not, as long as Israel — the most powerful state in the Middle East - feels threatened. For John Pawlikowski, a Christian professor of social ethics, "there should be no equation between one people threatened with extermination and one people fearful, at worst, of expansionism" -- happily dismissing the genuine fears of many Palestinians concerning their physical safety. It is only when Jewish Israelis recognise that the threat they fear is the very one they themselves have inflicted on the majority of the Palestinians that they mgiht recognise that a new basis of mutual recognition is

Some Christians feel that they should hesitate before conde-

over the Holocaust. Other Jewish and Christian contributors refreshingly demand a more stringent attitude towards what is happening today. Yet for all Zionist contributors, Jewish and Christian, there is a fundamental demand that Palestinians accept the right of Israel to exist, if they wish to enjoy that selfdetermination themselves. This touches on another central feature of the moral problem. Israel's right to exist is not the same as the right of the Jewish community in Palestine to live in peace and security. Israel is the embodiment of Zionism, and Zionism is predicated upon a Jewish majority. The implication is clear: Jewish power and control, and, as Judah Magnes, rector of the Hebrew University. warned, "a home necessarily established on bayonets over a

Palestinians also wanted control, but Micheal Lerner is disingenuous in simply claiming they

long period." This is where the

profound immorality of Zionism

were "not a people of innocent mning Israel, on account of guilt bystanders, but a people that refused to accept the state of Israel in 1947." The Palestinians wanted "self-determination," as adumbrated in the still fresh U.N. Charter. As a majority they wanted to retain the integrity and control of geographical Palestine. As a minority the Jews did not. for equally obvious reasons. Today the roles are in part reversed. yet the Jews of Israel cannot accede to today's Palestinian ideal of a secular democratie state embracing both communities. As Mohammad Hallaj succinctly argues, the Palestinian claim to a state of their own is aute de mieu. a sad recognition that until the Jews of Israrel are prepared to trust their Palestinian neighbours, neither party will be truly free: "if the two mini-states of partition reassure the Palestinians and Israelis, the democratic, nonsecretarian state liberates them." In the meantime, regardless of statements extorted from the PLO by the United States, most Palestinians will only accept

Israeli legitimacy in their hearts

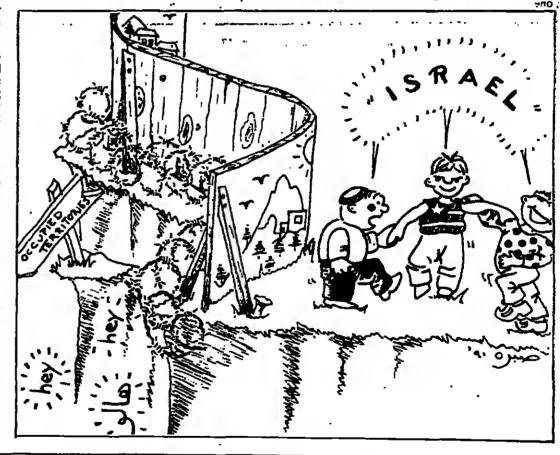
accept Palestinian legitimacy, Until then, Israel's "right to exist" cannot have substantive meaning.

"Mutual recognition"

Yet it is on the discussion of mntual recognition that this book finds its greatest strength. Marc Ellis, a leading Jewish liberal theologian argues that Holocaust theology must be discarded, since it locks Jewish thinking in the past. "If our theology is not confronted and transformed, then the political solutions will be superficial and transitory... a two state solution is only the beginning of a long and involved pro-

Israelis and Palestinians are destined to share this small patch for the foreseeable future and so Jewisb fulfillment is, Ellis argues, inextricably bound up with the fate of the Palestinian people. This does oot mean a one-off agreement on the occupied territories, but enduring intercourse between the two communities. This is heady stuff, for it takes out of the morass of past rights nd -wrongs- into the real realm of between those seeking to analyse reality and its moral implications impartially, and those still committed to waving their tribal ban-

No one can doubt the crucial hold of religious leaders in Palestine/Israel over their communities. As one pro-Israeli Christian theologian, Robert Brown, rightly states, "the moment of truth for the Palestinians will not be just the achievement of nationbood and a piece of real estate to validate the claim, but the way it subsequently relates to Israelis." Opinion polls suggest that as many Palestinians as Israelis in Palestine prohably accept the expulsion of their adversaries as a solution. If there is seriousness about spiritual reconciliation, Palestinian Christian and Muslim leaders must be found to give voice to the moral challenges faced by the Palestinian people. American Jewish theologians, as this book shows, have made a start. Can we hope that indigenous Jewish, Christian and Muslim leaders can now take the dehate further?



Pakistan divided over its post-war policies

Afghanistan

BALUCHISTAN

Ahmed Rashid

THE civilian government and the army are at loggerheads again, this time over Pakistan's future military role int the Gulf. Nawaz Sharif's support for the coalition has been vindicated: the prime minister has emerged a stronger leader in controlling the anti-Americanism that continues to sweep the country. But, he now has to deal with an angry

In the usually volatile world of Pakistani politics, the resignation of two cahiner ministers due to the current wave of anti-American feeling, normally would have brought the government down. Yaqub Khan, the foreign minister, was forced to resign hy the ruling Islamic Democratic Alliance because he defended the 11,000 Pakistani troops in Saudi Arabia, while Maulana Sattar Niazi, the fundamentalist minister of rural development, resigned after being criticised by Mr Sharif for not supporting the government's policies in the Gulf. It is a measure of Mr Sharif's newfound assertiveness that he forced Mr Niazi's resignation

and emerged unscathed from the controversy.

Pakistanis have been in the forefront of the wave of anti-Americanism sweeping the Muslim world since last Augusi. Although public demonstrations against the pro-Western policy of the government have subsided, there is still anger with the U.S. on two counts — the indiscriminate destruction of Iraq and the cut-off of American aid to Pakistan last October because of its nuclear weapons programme. But many Pakistanis are hoping for an economic boom from the Gulf - jobs in Kuwait, sub-contracts from the multinationals and cheap oil from the Saudis.

There is some debate about Pakisian's role in the region. The civilian government wants to be part of the U.S.-Arab military-economic security arrangement. Mr Sharif's aides believe that Pakistan should continue to provide troops to the Saudis, cool down the anti-American rhetoric, improve relations with India and avoid antagonising the West hy doing anything provocative like testing a nuclear device. Mr Sharif

has said repeatedly that he wants improved relations with the U.S., but says Pakistan will not give up its nuclear programme for the sake of U.S.

The government's policies are supported by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, the civil service, businessmen and Western emhassies. Mr Shar-

Seistan

Chagai

iran

if's position is also conditioned by self-preservation. "The government's ability to survive will depend on delivering economic benefits to the people rather than taking emotional decisions based on a vague anti-Americanism, said a Western

A broad section of the military, influenced by General

diplomat.

Quetta

an Islamic security arrangement. The army has initiated defence contracts with Iran; there have been appeals by General Beg's civilian suppor-Peshawar 426 №ปี Islamabad Lahore **PUNJAB** India

Mirza Aslam Beg, the chief of ters to share Pakistan's nuclear. army staff, have a different technology with Iran. a move that would unnerve Americans agenda. General Beg wants a "strategic consensus" with and Arabs. Iran, which will keep Western forces from the Gulf and set up

The anti-Americanism in the army is rife with contradictions, because the army has been defending rather than cri-ticising U.S. strategic interests in the region for 40 years. However, General Beg is now viewed as a "nationalist" by some left-wing parties and Islamic fundamentalists. The allparty conference, comprising these groups, which attacked government policy in the Gulf. reportedly had the army's backing. Behind the army's tilt to Iran are two other assumptions - that Pakistan should test a nuclear device and be prepared for a war with India because India may attempt to stave off political collapse by attacking Pakistan. To the army, the Iranian alliance will give Pakistan "the strategic depth" it does not have. To the civilians, such an alliance would isolate Pakistan from the West and the Arabs.

General Beg is due to retire in five months and the government hopes it can hold off any move by the military, antil he goes - The Independent.

Economy on path to full recovery

By Debbie Lovatt Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Despite the heavy beating every sector of Jordan's economy bas taken from the Gulf crisis, economic analysts are confident and optimistic that full recovery can, and will, be achieved.

On the surface, bowever, the immediate picture is bleak: Jordan has lost its main export market in Iraq and the Gulf states, tourism has dried up. unemployment has soared, remittances from expatriates have greatly declined, and oil supplies have been disrupted causing Jordan to import oil paid for in cash from Syria and Yemen rather than receive it from Iraq at a reduced rate in payment for debts. In addition. the country was flooded with returnees and refugees from the war theatre.

With the United Nations imposition and eoforcement of international sanctions on Iraq following its invasion of Kuwait, Jordan's main export market was lost. Jordan couldno longer rely on Iraq to represent its main market and was forced to look elsewhere for an outlet for its products. "We took it as a challenge and we are now exporting more goods to east and west Europe and Africa," said Dr. Ibrahim Badran, secretary general for the Ministry of Industry and Trade. In a way, economists say, the force majeure galvanised some exporters who might otherwise have taken little ioterest in exporting to places other than Iraq.

Imports were also affected by the zealous enforcement of sanctions by U.S.-led allies -Jordan-bound ships were barassed and war risk insurance premium rocketed.

The down side of this was that as importing became more difficult and less economically viable, manufacturing industries ran low oo vital raw materials making a finished product for export unachievable. The positive side, however, was that Jordan unwittingly found it was gradually achieving one

of the aims of the adjustment programme agreed upon by Jordan two years ago with the World Bank and International Monetary Fund: a reduction in

The tourist trade balted as travel companies cancelled trips to the region due to fears that Jordan would be embroiled in war and that Westerners would be less than welcome because of the political situation. A Ministry of Tourism report released in February this year estimates the loss in tourism receipts for the seven-month, crisis period at JD 176.5 mil-

Tourism promotion efforts are underway in Scandinavia. Italy, Germany and Spain for 1991. "These countries have always been a strong market and tend to lead the way in tourism," said a senior official

at the ministry. At the same time, domestic tourism will grow as "more people are expected to be spending their holidays in Jordan rather than Europe or America this year due to the problems with the economy, and hotels in Aqaba are already full for the Eid and Easter," said the tourism official striking an optimistic note.

Of all the problems the Gulf crisis left in its wake, the most visible is nnemployment. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) estimates the unemployment rate to be at least 20 per cent. Independent analysts believe this is a conservative figure and estimate the rate to be eloser to 30 per

As the economy struggled to absorb the multi-faceted impact of the Gulf crisis, many people found themselves out of work. "Companies reduced working hours and staff, and production dropped to a third, or a quarter, of its pre-crisis level," said Dr. Badran.

"The government is encouraging investors and entrepreceurs to set up their own busioesses. The (Industry and Trade) Ministry offers free advice, and loan facilities can be arranged through banks and other financial institutions," said the secretary general.

Dr. Saleb Khasawneh, secretary general of the Labour Ministry, said: 'Morale remains higb. Businessmen and employees are aware of what is going on and many workers have taken a cut in wages. This is illegal, but we turn a blind eye to it as it is the logical thing to do; so we don't intervene. We hope this situation is sbort term and that il will soon clear up and go back to normal."

Steps are being taken to reduce the number of illegal foreign workers in Jordan to enable employers to offer job priority to Jordanians.

Dr. Khasawneh explained that "if foreign workers, for example Egyptians, who were taking a low wage leave the country and are replaced by Jordanians and they take the same low wage we don't intervene. We leave things to market forces. Wages may vary. But we do encourage fair wages.

The return of nearly a quarter of a million expatriates led to a huge reductioo in remittances and put an extra burden on an already strained economy. "It is too early to tell how much bas actually been lost through remittances. Due to the war no-one was transferring money." Dr. Khasawneh

Jordanians returning from Iraq and Kuwait in particular are not ooly compounding the problem of unemployment, but also contribution to rising poverty io the country.

Uotil the political situation

clarifies it will not be possible to know whether returnees are planning to stay in Jordan or live elsewhere. "Many people have not made up their minds yet wbether to stay," said Dr.

Aid agencies bave been over-stretched to extend belp to all those now in oeed. Expatriate workers used to seed money to less well-off relatives. The return of family members and the end of an

income for themselves and their relatives bas pushed struggling families immediately "below the povery line." according to UNICEF.

The first casualty of poverty is a proper balanced diel and a reduced ability to pay doctors' fees or costs of medicine.

UNICEF cites borrifying stories of family members taking it in turns to eat - nne day the falber and boys eat, the next day the mother and girls eat. Schoolteachers talk of listless pupils unable to concentrate in class as they have not eaten well for days.

Pregnant and breast-feeding women are unable to offer the best start in life for their unborn and newly born children without a proper diet. Doctors report more miscarriages and underweight births than prior to Aug. 2 and anaemia is high. Io short, according to UN-

ICEF's regional director for the Middle East and North Africa, Richard Reid, "what the Gulf crisis has done to Jordan is make it instantly a less developed country from a middle income country."

Yet, officials remain optimistic that the Kingdom will recover its former strength and go beyond it. "I am sure we bave the capability to overcome the present difficulties." said Dr. Badran, the Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary General.

Dr. Badran feels that "the Gulf crisis has created a feeling that people have to work and produce more, save more and consume less. The crisis has also developed the understandiog that unemployment cannot be bandled except through increased production at all levels."

Regardless of bow optimistic and capable Jordan is of working hard to overcome the present economic setback, the adverse effects of sucb a sudden disruption in a country's development are bound to stav in society for a long time.

In the words of Dr. Badran, eveo though the Gulf crisis has been "so damaging, Jordan has to stand up to the challenge."



Veiled women gather en masse at Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Mosque in Amman in January to donate to Iraq's cause (File photo)

The veil and the east: What it means and why women wear it

By Leila Hassanin

IN STARK contrast to the once fashionalbe miniskirt. Egyptian women today aopear everywhere in the veil. Nor is the phenomenon limited to Egypt alone. It produced political upheaval in France when Muslim girls wore the hegab and long dresses to school.

France, the home of liberty. fratemity and equality, waged a fierce attack on those girls and their families to prevent them from applying their religious beliefs to their personal lives on the grounds that the French educational system is secular. The emergence of what is called Islamic fundamentalism — seemingly strengthened by events in the Gulf - has also provoked. further debate on the issue.

Indeed, the veil in modern times has been subjected to extended analysis, sympathy and criticism. In the West, it is seen as part of a reactionary trend, particularly by those who support women's liberatioo. On a broader front, it is regarded as an anti-secularist feature of fundamentalism, a tide of religious 'fanaticism' that is sweeping over the region and destroying attempts

to modernise Arab society. Since the mid 1970s, Egypt has witnessed a marked increase in public expressions of religious mores and there has been a great deal of speculation as to the policial, economic and social reasons for this.

Egypt over the past decade and a half has gone through a far-reaching socioeconomic change that has had a profound effect on the lives of its citizens. Hundreds of thousands of Egyptians migrated to the oil rich Gulf area in the hope of acquiring commodities that are perceived as a sign of modernisation and a Western middle-class lifestyle. Conspicuous wealth cropped up over night and is ostentatiously displayed by those who have it.

The results have not all been good. There has been a widening of the gap separating the "haves" from the "have nots," fueling feelings of deprivation and malcontent. The emphasis on materialism also has rocked the traditional foundations of Egyptian society, including ideology, security and a general acceptance of what life offers. To regain this lost contentment and to fight the feelings of alienanon many people reemphasise religious bonds.

So why do young, educated women in Egypt wear the veil? The reasons are many. Some do it out of religious duty. Islam prescribes a female dress that deemphasises a woman's attractiveness. For some women, then, the veil is re-- garded as a protection from male harassment in modern life's daily encounters.

It is argued by some that the veil. besides being a religious obligation, has also an economic advantage for lowermiddle and middle-class women who cannot compete in or afford a consumptionoriented lifestyle. Conservative dress - including the veil - is, a way to dress oneself decently without baving to spend a great deal of money.

Although this reasoning does not apply generally, many women may be searching for happiness and deeper values through a more thorough application of religious codes.

Two knowledgeable Westem women, formally known for following the latest trends, recently surprised friends and acquaintances by donning the

Why? Said one of them: "At first. these veiled women downstairs, who even covered their faces, were an object of amusement to me and my sister. Curiosity was the reason for occasional short talks and visits to the neighbours. What we found was quite astonishing to us. These were women at peace with themselves and their life despite the many problems they were facing dai-

In contrast, she and her sister, both having a much higher standard of living, rarely experienced such conteotment, even though they were doing whatever they thought would bring them happiness. This discovery, they said, was for them a turning point.

An Egyptian upper-middle class woman wbo now wears the veil, even though neither her mother nor her grand-mother did, likens Western trends in Egypt to small waves in an ocean, making their impact, but finally disappearing. "We kept westernising for generations, but we stopped short before the sexual_revolution. Maybe in the next wave-we will go too far,"

In the last decades, Egyptian women were faced with harsh ecocomic conditions that spawned a growing feminist movement. The fervor of this movement, which reached its apex in the 1960 and 1970s, now faces a perplexed, confused and exhausted client. Inflation, unemployment and increased expectations are a beavy burden on modern women. They have to struggle to keep things from falling apart.

Many women work outside the home in order to fulfill some of their families' and their own ambitions. They often end up as jacks of all trades and masters of none. Nervous, exhausted and unsatisfied, they see their children neglected, their marriages strained and their houses bereft of spirit.

A veiled woman says: "I am no longer interested in acquiring every new object on the

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Amman's

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leather goods,

watches, pens,

silverware,

porceiain.

exclusive gift shop

perfumes, lighters.

market, most of which falls nnder the category of luxury goods and exaggerated consumerism." To a certain extent, the veil is a rejection of the consumer society. It is a call for moderation, a return toreal necessities without all the frills and trimmings.

The return to Islam, then, is for some a way of emerging from the existing chaos. It is a hope for correcting things that have gotten out of hand. And what is seen by outsiders as a backing away in modernity and secularism is for many Egyptians a way to protect what is left of their traditions and to find indigenous solutions to their problems.

Traditions are often too extensive to be pul away, half forgotten in a dark attic at the expense of a flashier, more intriguing life that beckoned from the West. Having experienced some of the psychological wear and tear of the neverending quest for materialistic aspirations, many Egyptians are climbing to their attic and rediscovering the 'good old values.

This religious revival, which is in part a cultural revival, should not be labeled prematurely as reactionary and/or anti-secularist. It is an attempt to shape an indigenous cultural pattern that can be simultaneously assimilated with modern technological advancement without losing a deeper. more perceptive existence.

The veil also represents a demand for a different outlook on life and living necessities. It is a sign of dicontentment with the current state of affairs. These women are trying to shape in part this new society, one built on a perceived religious ideal. They should not be criticised for trying to live a life that for them is more comfortable and satisfying - Middle East Times.

Relief

(Continued from page 1)

figures as to what vaccines are needed and bow much is needed in terms of water purification material. In the meantime temperatures in Baghdad and across Iraq are rising and the threal of spreading epidemics related to a breakdown in bygienic cooditions is growing by the day.

While any visitors have remarked that on the surface many parts of Bagbdad seem to remain physically untouched by the allied bombings, looks can nevertheless be deceptive. In Baghdad this seems to be the case. No home bas in fact remained untouched. No family unharmed, if not through death in the war then through malnutrition or the fear of disease; new-found poverty evidently threatens the Iraqi middle elass. As one official puts it, "Iraq is a country of 18 million victims of war. The economic standstill has

brought about a new level of poverty, and getting the country back on the road means massive aid, which does not seem to be forthcoming. Furthermore, there is a lot of speculation as to whether Iraq will have any say over its own income and natural resources in the light of the ceasefire resolution that is being debated at the U.N.

Dr. Qaysi says he fears that the resolution would include clauses which would permanently prevent Iraq from asking for reparations from the allies for their use of excessive force against the country rendering it completely in a "pre-industrial revolution"

In a pessimistie note Dr. Oaysi told NGO delegates visiting Baghdad last week that be feared that Iraq's oil output, its price and actual use of the revenues would be entirely controlled by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. He added that the U.N. might even ban international courts from hear-. ing Iraq's case if Baghdad wished to pursue the issue of excessive use of force by the

The lack of total control of Iraq's own finances would only accelerate the boundless black markets already set up by sidewalk vendors all over Baghdad. Lines of up to 200 people could be seen in front of bakeries, and meat is extremely difficult to find anywhere. The lack of water seems to be even

more frightening than the sbortage of food. Many neighbourboods smell of sewage and only a small mioority of the population bas constaot water supply. A city that used to use megawatts of electricity has

bad to do with 700 megawatts for more than two months Bul Iragis know that withoul outside belp survival may be a difficult question under the present circumstances, "The

U.N. resolution which will set the terms of the ceasefire may be another Treaty of Versaille and there will be oothing we can do about except sign it," Dr. Qaysi said. Noting that Iraq was depen-

dent on the outside world in order to repair its infrastructure, be said if the ceasefire resolution would be as bad as he feared Iraq would be in a state of "permanent human bondage.' In a final note, Dr. Qaysi

told the visiting delegates that in his lifetime (he is 53) he did not expect that Iraq would recover even 10 per cent of the infrastructure capabilities that

it bad up to Jan. 17. "It's not possible to imagine what happened here simply because it's unimaginable," be said.

What bappeoed during the 42 days of war, said Dr. Qaysi was the equivalent to a mafia killing. "The allies killed the victim and burned the corpse, so that no-one can prove there was a killiog and the murderer goes free and the crime remains unsolved."

Hammadi

(Continued from page 1)

television speech in mid-March that bis government would draft a new constitution including democratic reforms.

Dr. Hammadi referred to the March 16 speech, saying a "draft constitution...a press law, a parties law" already have been prepared. But he added reforms were being delayed by the rebel-

The press and parties laws would apparently govern the news media and the relationship of other parties to the ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party.

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Dr. Hammadi, an economist, painted a gloomy picture of Iraq's post-war economic situation but said Baghdad would deal with the situation by raising domestic pro-

"Now that the sectarian sedition bas breathed its last breath and after its perpetrators and those behind them from outside our borders bave been crowned with shame, the door has opened for the stage of reconstruction and reform," Dr. Hammadi, himself a Sbiite, said in apparent reference to Iran.

Dr. Hammadi said his governmeot "will work to take all possible and practical steps to launch the process of democratic re-

Iraqi radio also reported Saturday night that the revolutionary Command Council had declared an amnesty for members of the armed forces who "return to the national ranks in the northern part of the country."

The radio added that "any of tbese members who brings with him a weapon will be bonoured when they report to the military units in their areas."





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Mubarak wants Egyptians to cut outrageous consumption

CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak warned Egyptians Saturday they must not expect an economie bonanza for their country's role in the Gulf crisis but would have to cut consumption instead

"The Gulf crisis does not mean cash will start flowing to us from every direction and there will be prosperity," Mubarak told the national news agency MENA.

"There is no prosperity in the whole world. If we want to live an bonourable life we must not rely on the outside to provide our food ... if anyone thinks otherwise he is wrong," he said after a ceremooy to inaugurate Cairo's eighth Nile bridge.

Since the Gulf crisis erunted in August the United States and Egypt's Gulf allies have written

WASHINGTON (AP) - China

was sharply criticised last week by

U.S. trade authorities for in-

creased barriers to U.S. sales.

U.S. exports to China dropped

by \$1 billion in 1990. The Chinese

sold the United States \$10.4 bil-

lion worth of goods more than

they bought. That surplus was

\$4.2 billion more than in 1989.

Commission has called attention

to the surge in U.S. imports from

China, It pointed out, for exam-

ple, that more Chinese shoes are

now being delivered in the Un-

ited States than are made by the

The report was the 1991 edition

of U.S. Trade Representative

Carla Hills' annual volume

"Foreign Trade Barriers." It

cerned about the increasing num-

ber of items that China's licensing

system covers, their growing eco-

nomic value, and the lack of

transparency with which the sys-

It added that Chinese delays on

paperwork sometimese seem to

be intentional and that central-

ised control has raised additional

bacriers to foreign sales in China.

Chinese mattufacturers pirate.

U.S. computer programmes.

The report also charged that

It said U.S. authorities are

concerned over China's actions

under an agreement with the

United States to supply launch

services for space satellites at terms "on a par" with those

"The (Chinese government's)

behaviour in a competition to

supply lauoch services to an Arab

consortium and to the Indonesian

telecommunications ministry has

called into question China's com-

pliance with the agreement," the

report added.

U.S. dollar Pound Sterling Deutschemark Swiss franc French franc

4

asked by Western launehers.

tem is applied," it said.

"The United States is con-

listed a series of complaints.

U.S. shoe industry.

The U.S. International Trade

U.S. attacks China

for protectionism

off around \$14 billion in debt. Officials say Gulf states sent an extra \$2 billion in cash grants.

"If we have received aid we must exploit it for development. Mubarak told MENA. "We must work and decrease our outrageous consumption."

The Paris Club of Western creditor nations has indicated it would write off a large part of Cairo's remaining \$36 billion foreign debt if it agreed on an economic reform programme with the International Monetary Fund | IMF |.

An IMF team is in Cairo to negotiate the final details a programme economists say will entail painful austerity measures on the way to creating a market eco-

It was less critical of Japan,

though Joshua Bolten, the U.S.

trade representative's general

counsel, said Japan still puts up

many of the most important bar-

Japan had a much bigger sur-

plus than China in trade with the

United States — \$11.1 billion last

year - but the surplus was \$7.9

billion less than the year before.

was thinner than last year's.

He said the section on Japan

"In last year's report there

were unresolved cases involving

supercomputers, satellites, wood

products, amorphous metals,

sound recordings. All of those

issues have at least to some de-

gree been satisfactorily re-

Mrs. Hills said in an announce-

ment that the United States has

not found a Japanese violation of

an agreement oo joint use by

groups of private compaoies of

telephone lines leased from the

public network. These are called

international value-added net-

work services (IVANS). Her

office will review the decision in

Bolten said some issues with

He declined to pick out a speci-

"Those on our priority watch

fic country as the worst offender,

list are Brazil, India, People's

Republic of China and Thai-

countries or so are on a regular

He added that another 20

He pointed to the Uruguay

Round, the trade negotiations

among 108 governments, as the

best way to solve disputes be-

tween the Uoited States and

countries in Western Europe.

Japanese yen (for 100) 483.2 486.1 Dutch guilder 355.6 357.7 Swedish crown 110.0 110.7

tralian lira (for t00) 53.8 54.1 Belgian franc (for 10) 194.0 195.2

South Korea including a dispute

on U.S. beef sales have been

solved...." he said.

30 days, she added.

but went on to say:

watch list.

riers to U.S. trade.

nomy. Mubarak said domestic pet-

roleum consumption had increased so much in the last eight years it had become "ugly.

A major IMF demand has been that Egypt raise the prices it charges locally for electricity, petrol and other forms of energy to help cut a huge government budget deficit.

If we receive aid or support from someone it will be to develop ourselves ... we should not think that others will throw their money at us." Mubarak said. "If that happens it will not be in the form of salaries but as projects to create work and increase produc-

The 500-metre Rod Al Farag bridge which Mubarak inaugurated links two sections of a ring road being built to relieve traffic

congestion in Cairo.

Kerkorian,

on bid to

buy TWA

unions agree

CHICAGO (R) - Trans World

Airlines's (TWA) three labour

unions have reached agreement

with investor Kirk Kerkorian on a

bid to buy the finaocially-

troubled carrier, a spokeswoman

Jeanne Ouellette, spokes-

woman for the California-based

Tracinda Corp. Kerkorian's in-

vestment vehicle, told Reuters,

"we are very pleased to have

accepted the proposal that the

labour unions have presented to

Aides to Kerkorian and union

representatives have been meet-

ing in St. Louis, along with civie

officials, to discuss a bid. TWA

has a large presence in the city,

TWA was taken private by

takeover specialist Carl Icahn in a

1988 leveraged buyout. The air-

lioe has been struggling financially. It defaulted on \$75.5 million in

"The St. Louis partnership for

air service, the elected officials and the unions have put forth at

extraordinary effort to preserve TWA as a strong, viable and

competitive international and

domestic catrier," Ouellette said.

not immediately available, but

TWA's pilots, machinists and

flight attendants had agreed last

week to offer \$137 million in

eoncessions to help the Los

Angeles investor in his buyout

Previously, Kerkorian, who already owns MGM Grand Air-

lines, a carrier serving luxury-

minded clients, had agreed to put

up \$250 million cash for TWA in

return for a 51 per cent stake in

In January, Kerkorian tried

unsuccessfully to bid for Pan Am

Corp, which is under chapter 11

One large hurdle facing any

deal is TWA's plans to sell some

key trans-Atlantic routes to

bankruptcy protection.

American Airlines.

the carrier.

Details of the agreement were

debt payments on Feb. 1.

one of its main bubs.

for the investors has said.

IMF urges Cyprus to exercise monetary, fiscal restraint

NICOSIA (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has orged the Cyprus government to exercise monetary and fiscal restraint. It said the budget deficit was running at more than three times the level of two years ago.

lo a report following its annual review of the Cyprus economy the IMF said "restraint should be the first order or priority in the conduct of financial policy in Cyprus today"

It warned that the "widening of the budget deficit was going too far, rising from 1.5 per cent of GDP (gross domestic product) in 1989 to a projected 5 to 5.5 per

"With the public debt rising in relation to GDP, and with inflatiooary pressures likely to worsen, the economy would beand its balance more difficult to

The public debt ratio rose from

48.8 per cent uf GDP in 1989 to a projected 58 per cent in 1991. Inflation is estimated at six per

The IMF's recommendations include a check in the rise of the wage bill, higher excise taxes on tobacco, alcohol and petrol prices, a 20 per cent excise tax on luxury goods and implementation of value added tax as early as possible in 1992.

While praising the government's "damage containment" policy in the wake of the Gulf crisis, the IMF warned that the expansion of liquidity was exces-

It said removal of a nine per cent interest rate ceiling imposed by law and the extension of central bank supervision and control to come more vulnerable to shocks the credit cooperatives remain the principal challenges the authorities confront in the monetary

Seoul suggests Saudi oil company buy into Korean refinery

SEOUL, South Rorea (AP) -South Korea has suggested to Aramco of Saudi Arabia that it buy into Ssangyong Oil Refining Co. instead of seeking to set up a

joint venture refinery. The Korean Economic Daily. quoting official sources, reported that Energy and Resources Minister Lee Hee-ll made the proposal in a letter to Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer in connection with Aramco's earlier bid to invest in a new refinery.

The ministry declined to comment on the report. The paper said Ssangyong has contacted state-run Aramco ab-

out the government proposal, but that it was not known how the Saudis reacted. Ssangyong officials refused to

comment but said the firm was considering an increase of its capital, which now amounts to 130 billion won (about \$180 million).

Last January, Aramco applied to the Seoul government for a crude oil a day.

coming two years

"Within two years we would

like to complete our adjustment to a market economy," Kupa told

a news conference in the Hague

after meeting Duteh officials and

"In this respect we are im-

plementing the norms of the

bank representatives.

licence to set up a \$700 milliun joint venture to uperate an oil refinery with Ssangyong.

Lee has said the request would be turned duwn under a government policy that bans new refineries in an effort to protect the domestic oil industry. There are currently five local refineries in operation.

In his letter, the paper said, Lee reiterated the government's disapproval of a new refinery but indicated Seoul would favourably considet investment by Aramco into Ssangyong in consideration of the friendly relations between the two countries.

Saudi Arabia has been a major oil supplier and an important construction market for Korea. Korean contractors are eager to participate in the Gulf nadon's postwar reconstruction efforts.

Ssangyong Oil Refining Co... owned by the Ssangyong Group. operates a refinery capable of processing to 190,000 barrels of

Hungary plans to switch to market economy within

European Community," Kupa, who met EC officials in Brussels THE HAGUE (R) — Hungarian Finance Minister Mihalt Kupa has said his country planned to before coming to the Netherlands, said without giving details. switeb to a market ecotromy within two years and was adopong EC He said he expected a five-year norms to ease its eventual entry into the Community.

association agreement between Hungary and the EC would be signed this year although his country was still seeking better terms for trade in agriculture, steel and textiles.

Kupa said he hoped it would be the last association treary before Hungary would gain entry into the 12-nation bloc.

Asian workers hope to return to Mideast

Tens of thousands of Asian workers driven from the Middle East by the Gulf war are eager to return now that the fighting is

"I'm broke and plan to go back as soon as possible. Mohammed Rafaideen, 32, who fled Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, after Iraqi missiles hit the city.

Gulf countries, rich in oil but poor in manpower, have relied un Asians, Palestinians, Egyptians and other foreigners to do the ordinary wurk that keeps their countries running.

Several poor nations that supply workers suffered economic disruption when the war wiped out most of the jubs and workers started returning and stopped sending money home. Rafaideen is une of about

280,000 workers who returned to Sri Lanka during the crisis that hegan with Iraq's invasion of Kuwaii on Aug. 2, according to fureign ministry figures. More than 220,000 Srt Lankans

remained in Gulf countries, hut most lost their jobs because of the war, the ministry said. Filipinos also look forward to

working in the Gulf region again. "I want to go back ... because pay in the Middle East is five times bigger than here, said Anacleto de Prado, a 46-year-old with fuur children who worked in

Before the war, workers from the Philippines sent home an average of \$1.3 hillion a year, a

major source of hard currency. Of about 500,000 Filipinos who worked in the Gulf, 30,000 returned home, said the uverseas workers' welfare administration.

About 300,000 Bangladeshis worked in the Gulf before Iraq seized Kuwait, and sent home about \$327 million a year. Most of the money stopped with the invasion, making things even worse for one of the world's poorest countries.

India, whose fureign exchange reserves are at an all-time low. lost the remittances from 130,000 of its 170,000 workers in Kuwait and Iraq. It spent \$157 million to evacuate most of its workers from those countries and now is providing special loans to help fly many of them hack.

Sri Lanka, a poor teaproducing country off the up of India, was among the most dependent on remittances. More than three per cent of its population worked in the Gulf region.

Over the past decade, Sri Lankan workers sent home in average of \$135 million a year. the central bank reported. That equalled 7.5 per cent of national income in this fiscal year.

Higher oil prices and a decline in tea exports further strained on inflation-ridden econumy Thousands of workers like

Rafaideen flock to the offices of recruiting firms to ask about new jubs in the Middle East. The government is giving financial afford the expenses of returning the next two years.

machandra, the labour nunister

Premachandra said he also had asked the International Occursation of Migration, a U.N. agency. for financial assistance in returning at least 50,000 Sri Lankans employed in Kuwaii before the

Newspapers have carned an increasing number of advertisements fur workers from Shad: Arabian companies.

Sri Lanka remained neutral in the war. It provided refuelling facilities to U.S. warships and aircraft for the Gulf, however, and hopes to be rewarded

Bernard Perera, director et Lagodan Utd., the largest foreign recruitment company in Sri Lanka, said Saudi Arahia and Kuwaii may blacklist people from several countries.

Some Western diplomats in Saudi Arabia have said the gevernnient was not preparing a blacklist, but that most Saudi sponsors of foreign workers were unsympathetic to nations that opposed the anti-frag affiance

Philippine officials hope their workers will be facoured. The Philippines sent a 2004meniber medical mission to Saudi Azabia. and the Filipmos treated some of the affied soldiers wounded in an Iraqi missile attack in Dhahran

At the end of a two-week com to Saudi Arabia last manth Labour Secretary Robin Torres said he expects the Gult countries help to job seekers who cannot to hite 2001,000 more Filippios in

India asks donors to help stave off possible default

NEW DELHI (R) - India is ernment, possibly inconclusive seeking emergency aid from foreign aid donors to stave off possible debt default as it copes with a worsening fiscal crisis and unprecedented political instability, officials and diplomats said.

India needs fresh funds to avoid rescheduling of its debt because of perilously low reserves of foreign exchange. There is cause for concern,

but no cause for panic." an official spokesman has told repor-

India has asked the United States to use its good offices to secure immediate German and Secretary Muchkund Dubey told Indian reporters in Washington. The three countries are India's main aid donors.

Dubey said he raised the issue in talks with Secretary of State James Baker. India had directly approached Tokyo and Bonn as well, he said.

"All our efforts are to avoid the kind of situation when we have to ask for rescheduling loans," the United News of India

about India's mounting foreign debt and ballooning deficits, have all but cut off lending to New Delhi, leaving few alternatives to debt rescheduling, bankers said. Lenders have been made skit-

tish by the resignation of Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar's gov-

in 1990, eight per cent up on 1989. SABIC products include

steel, petrochemicals, plastics

Zamel, who is also managing director of SABIC, said the in-

crease in the company's produc-

quoted him as saying. Financial institutions, worried

elections in May, and the postponement of the 1991/92 fiscal year budget (April-March) for political reasons, diplomats said. The International Monetary

Fund (IMF) has suspended negotiations on a \$2 billion loan. "They're not going to have IMF talks until there's elections, a new government and a full budget. Period." One diplomat said.

The annual meeting of India's aid donors, due in June in Paris. has been postponed because of the uncertainties, he said. Last year, India's 13 country donors gave \$6.5 billion.

Standard and Poor's Corp earlier last month downgraded India's long-term debt tu BBBIminus from BBBI and placed India's ratings on credit watch

with negtive implications. The U.S.-hased credit ratings agency said India's fiscal and other policies were being sidetracked by continued political dissension which has led to the collapse of two governments in the past 15 months.

World Bank figures show India staggering under a foreign debt uf \$70 billion, third highest in the developing world.

Foreign exchange reserves, bolstered by a \$1.79 billion loan from the fMF in January, stood at \$2.2 billion on March 8 after reaching a low of \$750 million in mid-January.

But finance ministry officials said the IMF money would run

fiscal crisis since independence

out by the end of June. "This is probably India's worst tor of the National Council of Applied Econumic Research Rao said India might ask aid

donors to waive requirements that New Delhi match tunds for projects. "We're sitting on a substantial amount of unused aid. around \$14 billion. India last month took drastic

action to cut imports because it lacked the hard cash to pay for them. The central bank banned foreign exchange sales to importers of capital goods and severely tightened credit requirements for other importers.

"Large parts of Indian industry will suddenly be crippied for want of raw materials, scores of projeets will be stopped in micstream." said the Economics Times in an editorial.

The newspaper, which reflects the views of India's business establishment, said the central bank was forced to use "economic instruments of unprecedented savagery because politicians had let the economy

drift towards disaster. India has taken increasingly desperate steps to ward off default on its short-term obligations, as lenders grow ever more tight-fisted, bankers said.

India revalued its gold assets in October to reflect international prices after the first downgrading of its credit rating by Standard and Poor's,

The Reserve Bank of India, the central hank, then sold around \$750 million in foreign securities hetween November and February to pay for imports, said one Western diplomat, likening the action to "selling the family silver."

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Sunday, March 31, 1991

Central Bank official rates

689.0 684.0 1186.9 1194.0 400.2 402.6 469.9 472.7

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Adel Imam — Mirvat Amin

SABIC reports slight dip in 1990 profit

NICOSIA (R) — The Saudi Zamel as saving SABIC pro-Basic Industries Corporation duced 13 million tonnes of goods Basie Industries Corporation (SABIC) said it made a three billion riyal (\$800 million) profit in 1990, slightly down on 1989.

The industrial conglomerate made a profit of 3.37 billion rivals (\$898 million) in 1989 and a record 3.68 billion riyals [\$980] million) profit in 1988. Saudi Arabian Industry and

Electricity Minister Abdul Aziz Abdullah Al Zamel said SABIC had achieved good results despite kets and the Gulf crisis.

cy, monitored in Cyprus, quoted

fluctuations in petrochemical mar-The official Saudi Press Agen-

tion would boost various Saudi industrial sectors. Ihrahim Bin Abdullah Bin Salameh, deputy managing direc-

tor of SABIC, said the eompany had approved a one billion rival (\$267 million) total dividend payout to shareholders.

and fertilisers.

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in 19471," said S.L. Rao, direc-**FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT**

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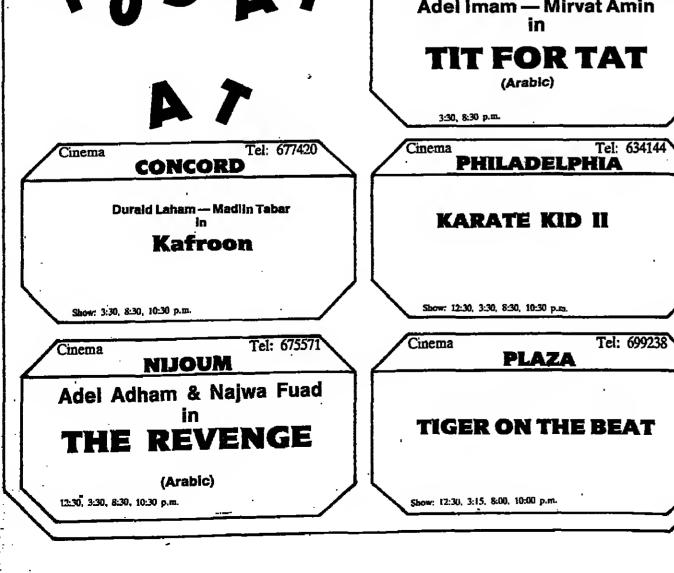
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ANNOUNCEMENT

Embassy of the S.F.R. of Yuqoslavia - Amman

All Yugoslav citizens temporary working and residing in Jordan are requested to contact the Yugoslav Embassy as soon as possible for details about the Census of the population of Yugoslavia which is to be held from April 1st till April 15th 1991.

The Embassy is open from Saturday till Thursday from 0900 - 1200 hours.





Seles, Graf to meet in hardcourt final

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (Agencies) - Steffi Graf cot her wish Saturday with a semifinals victory in the U.S. Women's Hardcourt Tennis Championships that set up a showdown in Sunday's final against Monica Seles, her successor as world number one.

Seles, the top seed, beat thirdwanded Manuela Maleeva-7 3 7 2 7 mirestand 6-2-2-6 · 142. Aniic second-seeded Graf crushed France's Julie

 Halard 6-0 6-1. "I played here hoping to have a final against her [Seles)," said Graf, who took a wild-card entry into the tournament.

The German, who held the top spot in the women's rankings for a record 186 successive weeks before giving way to Seles earlier this month, quickly tried to

downplay the showdown. "I just want to play well. I want to relax and have fun," she said. 'I just want to do well and be

satisfied with myself." Graf, who has not won a tournament in five months, has

lost her two matches against the 17-year-old Yugoslav.

Seles hopes she is in better form when she faces Graf. "I just couldn't find my thythm." Seles said after her notching her eighth victory without a defeat to Malceva-Fragmere, ranked 11th, "My return was just not working today. I

didn't play my eame. But it's good that I came back." Scies, who has won the Austrahan Open and Players Championship alieady in 1991, htoke Maleeva-Fragniere twice on her way to winning the opening set.

But, in the second set. Maleeva-Fragmere, who lost in last year's final here to Seles, used excellent ball placement and well-timed drop shots to even the

match at 1-1. Neither player could hold serve in the first three games of the third set as Seles led 2-1. Seles held in a love game to take a 3-1 lead and was well on her way to

victory after Maleeva-Fragniere

dropped serve again in the next

Graf had considerably less trouble with her opponent, ranked 54th in the world. "It was a good match for me." Graf said. There were not too many mistakes from my side."

Both Graf and Scles downplayed the importance of Sunday's

"It will just mean that she or I were better that day," Seles said. "I will have to serve and return better and be more aggressive than I was today."

"It's not winning a tournament or winning against someone special. Graf said. "It's me I'm con-

cerned about. I just want to do welli . . . "I feel better day by day," said Graf, who won the first two U.S. Women's Hardcourt Championships

when the tournament was revived in 1988. She missed last year's lournament because of a thumb

> Fernandez, Sukova advance in Florida

TARPON SPRINGS, Florida 1AP) - Gigi Fernandez and Helena Sukova rallied from a 5-0 first-set deficit to beat Kathy Jordan and Liz Smylie 4-6, b-4, 6-1 in the semifinals of the \$200,000 Light N' Lively Doubles Satur-

In other semifinal, the Soviet duo of Natalia Zvereva and Larisa Savchenko polished off Robin White and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario 6-1, 6-3,

Fernandez of Puerto Rico and Sukova of Czechoslovakia take on Zvereva and Savchenko in Sunday's final at Innisbrook resort. The winners earn \$75,000.

Jordan and Smylie could do no wrong for much of the opening set. Smylie of Australia served and returned well while her American teammate picked off balls at the net.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF 1990 Tribune Media Services, Inc

North-South vulnerable. South

THE ART OF LEGERDEMAIN

deals NORTH AKQ 4 Q 8 5 4 WEST EAST 9753 ♣ Void 1082 9654 ♠ A K 7 3 2 SOUTH

: :

↑ A K Q 10 8 6 . J 7 3 The bidding: South East North 3 NT P256 DЫ Pass Pass 1 🌩 4 NT Pass Pass

Pass Pass Opening lead: Six of + There are some situations where there is no way to deceive an opponent. For example, it is impossible to convince a player who is looking at the A K Q of a suit that you hold those cards. Then again, there are a number of situations which naturally lend themselves to delicate decep-

tion. This hand is an example. South's bidding was inconsistent and led directly to the borrible slam contract. After passing three no trump around to North, South also should have allowed partner the courtesy of the road over four clubs. When South elected to bid four spades, North correctly decided, in our opinion, that South probably held a singleton club, and so pressed

on to the spade slam. West led the six of clubs. When dummy came down, declarer realized he was in a terrible contract. However, there was one slight hope: If East could be bluffed into switching, the slam would roll home. Which card should South play to try to suggest to East that it was South, not West, who held a singleton?

Normally, if you want to discourage a defender from continuing a suit, you should play low—the same thing the other defender would do. Here, however, that could not succeed, because that would give West J 10 6 in clubs, and from that holding the jack would have been led initially. Similarly, should declarer play the jack, it would mean that West initially held 10 9 6, and the

lead would have been the ten. At the table, declarer found the only card to sow confusion in the mind of the enemy-he followed with the ten. After much thought East decided that declarer held a singleton and that West had led low from J 9 6, so the defender shifted

to s diamond. Finis.

France

5-0

beats

Albania

PARIS (R1 - Two goals apiece from Franck Sauzee and the inevitable Jean-Pierre Papin carried France to a comfortable 5-0 victory over a dispirited Albania in a European Championship soc-

cer qualifier Saturday. The result maintained the confident French team's two-year un-beaten record and left them perched on top of Group I with maximum points from five matches and with eyes firmly fixed on

next year's finals in Sweden. Sauzee and Papin netted their goals in the first half and Albanian keeper Blendi Nallbani added to bis side's misery by scoring a bizarre own goal.

Albania had little stomach for a fight after losing three of their 16-strong squad en route to Paris. defectors during an unscheduled overnight stop in Switzerland.

They had even less when Sauzee blasted home a direct free kick from more than 25 metres after only 35 seconds of the match.

Sauzee, who thundered that effort just inside the right-hand post, showed his versatility by scoring with a second free kick,

A Papin penalty after Rudi Vata felled winger Christophe Cocard in the box in the 33rd minute and a Papin header from a Cocard cross nine minutes later had the match well and truly settled by the break.

With little incentive left. France eased off in the second period but the hapless Nallbani gave them a fifth when he tried to palm away a high cross and pushed it instead over his

Kankkunen leads the Safari Rally

NAIROBI (Agencies) — Finland's Juha Kankkunen took the lead early Sunday in the 39th Safari Rally after Carlos Sainz of Spain abandoned the contest due to mechanical failure.

Kankkunen, driving a Lancia Integrale, had accumulated I hour, 51 minutes and 10 seconds in penalty points halfway through the fifth leg at the northern town of Maralal.

Sweden's Mikaet Ericsson was second in a Toyota Celica GT4. with 2:12:15 in penalty points. Argentina's Jorge Recalde, driving a Lancia, was third with 2:22:08 in penalty points. The winner of the race is the

driver with the least time lost. Rally officials said Sainz, who had dominated the race since late Wednesday, quit shortly after the start in Eldoret of the 941kilometre fifth leg. But the officials had scant de-

tails on the fate of Sainz's GT4, saying only that the engine blew. Of the 57 starters in Nairobi Wednesday, only 27 were still racing at 0830 GMT Sunday. The others had succumbed to rough terrain, quagmires, mechanical

failures and accidents. The six-day 1,500-kilometre endurance race is divided into six legs, which are in turn split into sectors. Each sector ends with a

control point, Drivers are allowed specified time to cover each sector. Penalty points are calculated in the time drivers are late reaching control

The race is fourth in the World Rally Championship circuit and counts toward the drivers' and manufacturers' title.

Traditionally, the race is held during Easter holidays when the annual long rains normally start in this East African nation. The route runs over some of the worst roads in the world.

Earlier in the fourth leg, nine onlookers were injured Saturday when Kenyan Jayant Shah's Nissan 200 SS collided with a train at s railroad crossing and cataputted into a crowd.

The Sunday Nation newspaper said nobody was killed. One onlooker suffered senious iniuries.

Shah suffered slight injuries,

but his co-driver, Kenyan Lofty Drews wasn't injured, seconding to the newspaper. Four other accidents have been

reported since the race started. Two Kenyan drivers and a Japanese mechanic remained hospitalised Sunday in good condition, rally officials said.

Sunday's route takes the vehicles through tracks in the semiarid northern Kenya. The remaining contenders are expected in Nairobi Monday via a route around the perpetually snow-covered Mt. Kenya, Africa's second highest peak.

Meanwhile the Paris-Dakar rally is set for a major shake-up next year when organisers plan a 12,000-kilometre trek finisbing in South Africa and running the length of the continent, the sports daily L'Equipe said Saturday.

Rally director Gilbert Sabine told the newspaper the African route of the rally would run from Tripoli in Libya through Chad, the Central African Republic. Zaire, Zambia and Namibia to finish at the Cape. Sabine's plan involves not just

a major change of route but of character with the rally becoming much more than the Sahara desert classic it bas been in its 13 years of existence to date.

Sabine was quoted as saying the rally would be renamed 'Dakar 92. Paris-The Cape". though it will go nowbere near the Senegalese capital.

It would start in Paris on Dec. 28 this year with a prologue in either Barcelona or Marseille and finish on Jan. 20, making it three days - and 3,000 kilometres longer than this year's rally.

Sabine said the rally would stick to its other traditions and stage competitions involving cars, motorcycles and lorries,

The abolition of apartheid laws in South Africa and the likely return of that country to the Olympic fold made the Cape an ideal destination, be said.

Ardiles takes over as Newcastle boss

LONDON (R) — Osvaldo Newcastle, seeking a promo-Ardiles, Argentina's former tion playoff place and a return to their former glory, made Ardiles World Cup socces star, took over as manager of English second their first choice to replace Jim division Newcastle Sunday. Smith, who resigned last week.

The Argentine graced the En-Ardiles, who became manager glisb first division with Totof Swindon in July 1989, confirmed he was moving into the vacant managerial seat at Newtenham Hotspur for 10 years. joining them after winning a castle just a few hours after World Cup winner's medal on watching his old side beat his new home soil in 1978, before turning to management last year.

Ardiles, 38, leaves Swindon in the lower half of the second division. He took over from former Scottish international Lou Macari, and guided Swindon to promotion last season.

Ardiles who takes charge of Newcastle immediately with a home game against Bristol Rov-Newcastle is a very big club.

ers Monday, said: "I've enjoyed my time at Swindon but obviously next season it's got to the stage

Fatigue begins to take its toll in English soccer they slumped 3-1 at home to of sorts," where you have got to sit down

LONDON (R) - After watching Leeds United labour to victory in their 23rd game since the New Year, manager Howard Wilkinson believes it is time English soccer had a holiday.

"You can't change the season round but I think it's time for a six-week break between Jan. 1 and mid-February," Wilkinson commented after his fourthplaced team beat Chelsea 2-1.

With eight league matches remaining for top two teams Arsenal and Liverpool, the first division season has reached a point where some top players feel burned out.

Others, in a crowded season that has only a 10-week summer break, appear to be merely going through the motions.

"That was our 23rd game this year with something like 15 cup ties and we have begun to lose the rhythm because we are just getnne up and playing." Wilkinson complained.

He could have been talking about Liverpool, the champions who led the league before Saturday's match.

After thrashing bottom of the league Derby 7-1 last weekend.

lowly Queen's Park Rangers. It was Rangers' first win at Anfield and was one of the bigger upsets of an already surprising season that has seen the lead change hands as often as a relay

club 3-2 Saturday.

baton. Liverpool, who have faltered since the shock resignation of manager Kenny Dalglish, were witho striker John Barnes, his England team mate Steve McMahon, Irish midfielder Ronnie Whelan and injured goalkeeper Bruce Grob-

belaar. Their defeat allowed Arsenal. chasing a league and cup double, to go two points clear after a 2-0 win at Derby. Striker Alan Smith scored both the goals, one in each

Over at Tottenham Hotspur, manager Terry Venables was without England Stars Gary Lineker and Paul Gascoigne, the first in need of a rest and the other recovening from surgery.

"He's been looking really tired so I have decided to give him a rest." Venables had said of Lineker. "He has played consistently and now he seems a bit out

The striker has missed only two matches for Spurs this season but played well below par in the European Championship qualifier for England against Ireland Wednesday. Without him, Spurs laboured

to a 2-2 draw at home to lowly Coventry, clawing their way back. from a 2-0 deficit. At Nottingham Forest,

year's F.A. Cup semifinalists but I beaten 3-1 by Wimbledon in the league, England fullback Stuart Pearce had to be substituted in the second half. 'He has had a lot of games and

is looking a bit weary," said Forest coach Liam O'Kane. For Wilkinson this is mainly

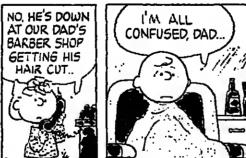
the fault of an overburdened division that will be yet more crowded next season when two more second division clubs are due to boost it to 22 members. "Whith the extra league games and think about which of these competitions you want to be in. When I was a second division manager I was never too unhappy when we got knocked out of the F.A. and league cups," Wilkin-Sunderland, who look to be heading back to the second divi-

sion after winning promotion last season; had to field their youngest team for four years because of the injury toll. But their bome line-up of three

teenagers and three more under-21 players still saw off thirdplaced Crystal Palace 2-1, effectively confirming the title race as two club affair. The Scottish premier league, with Rangers three points ahead of Aberdeen, is also a two-team race. Both won Saturday while third-placed Dundee, nine points behind Rangers.

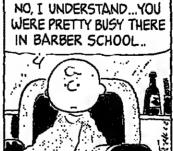
Jordan Times Tel: 667171

Peanuts









Andy Capp









Mutt'n'Jeff



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY APRIL 1, 1991 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This really well aspected April Fool Day should hold no surprises and is especially good for spiritual ideas able to others. and thoughtful careful expressions

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A smile and a word of encouragement to those who look to you secretly for assistance gives them the will to go on despite harsh conditions ahead.

of them. Serve the best interests of

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) There are a number of good friends who are willing to go along with you if they know just what you have in mind so be more direct with them.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You need to make sure now that you take no chances, whatever, with your reputstion and your good name; and if you must get off to a

quiet place. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 10 July 21) This is your day 10 spend your time ferreting out; informa-tion from those who think and who have had different backgrounds

from yours. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Whatever you have in mind that requires a fresh new start at stiending to obligations whether of a personal or business is just right for you-

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) This is the moment when you are able to show you are earnest and sincere in wanting to get along better with partners so cooperate

LIBRA: [September 23 to October

22) There are a lot of setivities to be done by you and especially in making your surroundings both more attractive and more comfort-

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Whatever you have in mind that is happy and agreeable and the special delights that attract you is good after you have done what you SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to

December 21) You now need to make sure you do something st home that will reassure your own clan that all the frustation you have is not direct at them. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to

January 20] This is the moment for you to handle those personal chores in such a manner that your usual allies will be impressed and go along with you. AQUARIUS: | January 21 to Febru-

ary 19) You have a chance now to add to your income, so avoid that doing for snother that costs considerable and take ome to build your own assets.

PISCES: 1February 20 to March 20) There are a considerable number of personal projects that require you to get the good will of usual allies so be off to see and tell them early.

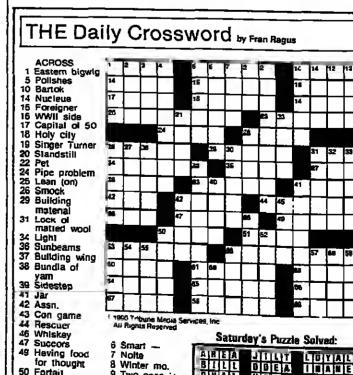
Today's child: If your child were bom loday she or he succeeds quite well in work that requires near touch and fine finish and anistic feeling. Learning not to put aside or forget obligations that have been made of a material or practical nature will be the hardest aspect that this progeny will need to master.

THE BETTER HALF, By Harris HARRIS . "Instead of munching fattening

snacks, you've been sucking on sunflower seeds?" JUMBIE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. VORAF

LIRLT **GELPED** NHO HAS A BAD LIVER MIGHT HAVE BEEN. **ABAANN** Now arrange the circled letters lo lorm the surprise answer, as sug-gested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: (Answers tomorrow Jumbles: FOYER ALIAS SECOND DETAIN . As an ertist, the silhouette maker's view of life was rather this-"ONE-SIDED"





Jay 23 Maladles 25 Interpret 26 Dislike 27 Arctic explorer 28 Gemut 30 Vagabond 31 Festival of Fish Kind of chest Apollo Apportion Dazzingly

bright Essential

68 Belg. city 69 — bends

3 "Norma" leature 4 Wrestling

YELLIW SAGA
WALLROOM LEMOD
MIDDLEDFTHEROAD
ARILS SIGGLEST
PETE YESMED
ALBANY SPATULAS
FOOTLOCKER REST

43 Fired 45 Fr. friend 48 Male 50 Belg. city 52 Fr. city 53 Autocral 54 Feshion

55 Stretfordon---56 Petil --57 Candid 58 Solleltude 59 Swiss peinter 62 Coxcomb

Soviet Georgia defies Kremlin with referendum on independence

Voters in Georgia flocked to polling stations Sunday in a referendum on whether to break with 70 years of Communist rule and restore the southern republic's shortlived independence.

With nationalist feeling running high during the past two years in the trans-Caucasian republic. the outcome appeared to be a foregone conclusion.

Georgian President Zviad Gumsakhurdia has predicted an overwhelming majority favouring independence as part of his stepby-step approach of restoring the independent 1918-1921 Georgian state which was crushed by the Red Army.

"It will be a great majority. maybe more than 80 per cent. Gamsakhurdia said after voting with his wife in Tbilisi, the republic's tree-lined capital, "It will be a great victory in our fight for independence.

Gamsakhurdia came to power last year in elections that swept the Communists from power. He said his top priorities within

two years would be to "change this old, sorry economic system. More privatisation and more contact with Western economies." Election officials said there had

been a heavy early turnout in bright sunshine in the tree-lined streets of Tbilisi. Many voters carried leafy branches marking Palm Sunday - celebrated by the

LONDON (R) - British Foreign

Sceretary Douglas Hurd wants to

hasten what he has called "the

snail's pace" of talks with China

over the lulure of Hong Kong

when he visits Peking this week.

Hard the most senior British

minister to visit China since the

June 1989 bloodshed in Tianan-

men Square, will be a delicate

mutual suspicions between Hong

ing on Hong Kong in New York.

activists and lawyers in the Brit-

ish colony voiced fears China's

1997 resumption of sovereignly

would remove what protection of

basic human rights they presently

With China often dispensing

criminal justice with a bullet in the

back of the head, they said the

meetings starting Monday could

be the last time the colony's rights.

record comes under international

linman rights organisations

The five-day trip, which makes

than many other Christian faiths. "A lot of people of various nationalities are coming in. Voting is more active than in previous elections." said Natela Tetvadze, an electoral official in one

Tbilisi district.

"I don't doubt 100 per cent here are for independence." Polls were to remain open until late evening, with first results

expected Monday afternoon. The 3.4 million voters were asked on ballot papers printed in seven languages: "Do you agree that the state independence of Georgia should be restored on the basis of the independence act of May 26, 1918?"

Georgia was one of six Soviet republics to boycott President Mikhail Gorbachev's countrywide referendum on March 17 on preserving the Soviet Union as a renewed federation."

Gorbachev, who portrayed the 58 per cent "yes" vote as an endorsement of his vision of a looser union, has warned of chaos and civil war if the Soviet Union

begins to splinter. But the outcome did nothing to calm separatist passions. Three of the other boycotting republics — Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in the Baltie region — have held their own "opinion polls" which returned majorities in favour of restoring their pre-World War II

Kong and Peking. Hurd will try

to settle differences over a new

airport in the colony which re-jurns to China in 1997,

Also on the agenda will be

human rights. "Tiananmen Square has entered our vocabul-

ary as an expression of hope

crushed by military force," Hurd

wrote in an article last week.

referring to the military suppres-

Activists' fears mount over human

HONG KONG (R) - On the and lawyers fear international nian provisions still on Hong

eve of a three-day United Nations
Human Rights committee heartory will end in 1997 since China
Kong's statute books but not enforced for many years, such as the

is not a signatory to the Interna-

Political Rights (IPPCR).

tional Covenant on Civil and

ern history that you have an

entire people who will be deli-

vered to the sovereignty of a state

which is not a signatory of the

IPPCR (International Covenant

on Civil and Political Richts) and

not a democracy as we know it."

said Daniel Fung, a leading hu-

Lawyers say this gives Peking a

free hand legally to invoke draco- June. 1989.

'This is the first time in mod-

Peking in June 1989.

rights in Hong Kong after 1997

As well as trying to get rid of sion of pro-democracy protests in

Hurd wants to speed up Hong Kong talks

power last year in elections that swept the Communists out of office, said Saturday that secession depended on "the stance of Western nations and the readiness of the central Soviet government to negotiate.'

He said "certain political steps" would be taken - expected to include an independent army and foreign policy and a separate currency.

Also on the eve of polling. Gorbachev asked Gamsakhurdia to act to end violence in South Ossetia, a mountainous corner of his republic where at least 50 people have died in months of unrest. Soviet media say tension is mounting there, with armed

gangs ringing large towns. South Osserla, like Abkhazia on the Black Sea, has a considerable non-Georgian population and both areas have made clear they wish to remain part of the Soviet Union should Georgia

Newspapers in the republic. generally under the control of Georgia's nationalist authorities, called for a big "yes" vote.

"Let us vote for an independent Georgia," read the banner headline in Republic of Georgia. the largest Georgian-language

Alongside it was a poem dedicated to Gamsakhurdia on his 52nd birthday, whieb he eele-

The China visit, the first by a

British foreign Secretary since Sir

Geoffrey Howe in October 1986.

follows a row over the status of

Tibet's spiritual leader, The Dalai

China protested about the

Dalai Lama's recent visit to Bri-

tain, during which he met the

Lord Chancellor and Prince

Charles, the heir to the throne.

Prime Minister John Major and

The U.N. hearings normally

take place every five years but as

the next one is scheduled for

1996, one year before the colony

becomes part of China, few be-

lieve Britain will have any power

to influence Peking on the human

China has been widely criti-

cised for its human rights record,

particularly after the Chinese

army brutally crushed pro-

democracy demonstrations in

rights issue by then.

Hurd refused to see bim.

Also prominent were pictures of Soviet soldiers breaking up the peaceful April 9, 1989, separatist rally in Tbilisi in which 20 people were killed. That tragedy is widely viewed as the catalyst for the surge in nationalist sentiment.

Soviet

miners

threaten

MOSCOW (AP) - Striking min-

ers from southern Siberia

threatened Sunday to flood coal

mines, permanently damaging or

closing them, unless lawmakers

of the Soviet Union's biggest

republic meet their economic and

gress of People's Deputies meet-

ing in the Grand Kremlin Palace.

Miners also have political de-

mands, which vary from region to

region. Moliga reiterated the

Kuznetsk demands for the res-

ignation of Soviet President

Mikhail Gorbachev and the elec-

uon of a new Russian parliament.

Moliga's threat 10 flood func-

tioning mines came on the fourth

day of a special parliamentary

session which has been bogged

down in a power struggle be-

leader Boris Yeltsin and oppo-

parliamentary leaders would try

to bring to the agenda a vote on a directly elected Russian presi-

dent, a proposal that Yeltsin sup-

call for a vote on a law creating a

new Russian presidency, even

though more than 77 per cent of

Russian voters supported the idea

Yeltsin is chairman of the con-

gress's smaller, full-time legisla-

ture, the Russian Supreme

Soviet. It is the highest post in the

Russian Federation, the largest of

Yeltsin has said he would seek

election as president, giving him a

moral edge over Gorbachev, his

political rival, who has never

faced direct election by the vo-

"The Russian people voted for

a new presidency, but we see a lot of people here (lawmakers) who

would refuse it," said Viktor

Mamayev, a liberal and leader of

an independent labour union in

Moscow. He appealed to his col-

leagues to "fulfill" the will of the

Hardliners seeking to oust

Yeltsin demanded in several

speeches Sunday that he and his

government be investigated for

various alleged misdeeds, includ-

ing putting pressure on conserva-

the I5 Soviet republics.

in a March 17 referendum.

The Congress Friday rejected a

Russian Prime Minister Ivan

nents of his leadership.

ports.

ters.

people.

"Why don't you help us?"

ing of their wages.

national norm.

Russian parliamentarians were

to flood

mines

political demands.

Seventy per cent of the republic's five million residents are ethnic Georgians, but many non-Georgians questioned on the street also favoured independ-

"We shall vote for an independent Georgia," said Ludmila Sba-lagurova. "I was born in the Ukraine but I bave lived here for about 30 years. I think each republic should be independent." But Gamsakhurdia dismissed

Gorbachev's appeal as interfer-

ence in bis republic's affairs. 'Gorbachev is the main reason for that bloodshed," he told reporters. "It is his policy and it is directed against us. It is the Kremlin's war against Georgia because we are fighting for inde-

pendence. Violence erupted in South Ossetia late last year when Georgia's parliament abolished the area's autonomous status. The region, like Abkhazia on the Black Sea, has a considerable non-Georgian population and both areas have made clear they wish to remain part of the Soviet Union should Georgia secede.

New cases of cholera stir fears

in Colombia BOGOTA (AP) - Detection of new cases of cholera in Colombia has heightened fears of a spread of the disease, which has killed hundreds of people in neighbour-

ing Peru. Doctors have confirmed the presence of cholera bacteria in 13 Colombians, most of them residents of Tumaco, a port city of more than 100,000 people in southwestern Narino state.

The latest victims include the first Colombian child affected by the disease, a 4-year-old from Tumaco, according to a local hospital report obtained by the Caracol Radio network.

Bogota's La Prensa newspaper reported Saturday that the National Health Institute bad received 79 stool samples from other Colombians suspected of contracting cholera, which causes severe diarrhea and vomiting.

Because 30 people with severe diarrbea are under observation in Tumaco's main hospital, more cases of th illness could be confirmed soon, the hospital report

On Friday, the Colombian government declared a medical red alert in the southern regions bordering Ecuador and Peru, two countries affected by the first Latin American epidemic of the cholera in nearly 100 years. Health Minister Camillo Gon-

zalez sent a government commission to Tumaco to study new emergency measures to prevent the disease's spread in the region. On Saturday, however, mem-

bers of the government committee sent to Tumaco were considering new measures to confront a possible epidemic, Caracol reported. The radio network did not say what steps were contemplated. Thatcher legacy may cloud

It says the Conservatives, in power since 1979, are trapped

and divided by the unpopular

legacies of Margaret Thatcher.

chers who forced the "iron lady"

to resign as premier last Novem-

ber judged that Britons were

tired of her autocratic style and

ahrasively right-wing economie

Successor John Major, behind

whom the nation rallied during

the Gulf war, cites his own boy-

hood poverty in vowing to make

Yet a recent gallup poll found

that fewer than 20 per cent

thought he had made a drastic

and Labour neck-and-neck in vo-

ter esteem. The election must be

Radice, a Labour parliamenta-

rian, "Major cannot shrug off the

Labour cites an economy mired

in deep recession and also the

adult, rich and poor, which was

imposed by Thatcher to replace

Other polls put Conservatives

"In the end." says Giles

Britain "a classless society."

break with Thatcherism.

held before mid-1992.

Thatcherite inheritance."

Rebel Conservative backben-

Conservative rule.

policies.

Albanians vote in 1st free elections

TIRANA, Albania (AP) - Facing a historic choice between Communist rule and a fastgrowing democratic opposition. Albanians turned out in force Sunday for their first muldparty elections since Stalinists seized power in 1944.

Polls opened at 6 a.m. (0500 GMT) under leaden skies in Albania's rundown capital. Red flags bearing the distinctive startled by the threat from double-headed eagle symbol of Anatoly Moliga, a strike leader in the Shiptars, as the Albanians call the Kuznetsk basin. About themselves, flapped in the wind 300,000 of the country's 1.2 milbeside voting stations.

lion miners have joined the There were indications many strike, which began as a 21-hour voters went to the polls early 10 walkout March 1. elect a 250-sear People's Assem-Moliga warned that miners bly Parliament. Sali Berisha, one of the opposi-

were "preparing to flood mines" to protest government inaction uon Democratic Party's two main during their monthlong strike. flooding now is one method used leaders, voted at a polling station of Tirana about two hours after to close mines. polls opened. By that time, about "We are paying for your hel-530 of that region's 600 registered plessness every day," Moliga told voters already had cast ballots. the 1,063-member Russian Conelection officials said.

Voting in the capital appeared to be taking place in an orderly

Lines outside the nearly empty Moliga recommended a fourfood stores, a symbol of the republie commission be formed Communists' economie failures to negotiate with the striking that have been a main campaign miners demanding better working theme of the opposition, were and living conditions and a doubllonger than at most polling sta-Miners now earn an average of

Berisha predicted a "total vic-375 rubles (\$660) per month, about 10 per cent above the tory" for the Democrats before disappearing behind a flimsy pink curtain to vote.

He emerged grinning and making the Democrats' victor V-sign as dozens of cameras flashed.

"This day is the greatest day in Albania's history," said Gramoz Pashko, the Democrat's other main figure, voting at a station across town. "It's the end of dictatorship, the end of commun-

Communist President Ramiz Alia, who legalised opposition tween reformers led by Russian parties in December under pressure from student-led protests, was to cast his ballot near the Bliok, Tirana's elite Communist Silayev said in an interview that housing district.

Posters at polling stations explained bow to vote. Elections officials included members of all political parties.

Polls were to remaio open 14 hours, and official results are not expected until at least Tuesday.

Seats where no candidate wins a majority will be decided in a runoff election next Sunday. Tens of thousands of people

rallied in Tirana for the Democrats Friday - the elimax of a campaign marked by poor communications, continued Communist domination of the media and unrest fired by widespread misery and discontent.

Alia's government has recently released hundreds of political prisoners. On Saturday, 258 prisoners were set free, said Arben Puto, a leader of Albania's first buman rights group. A group of 122 was released under an amnesty on March 17. However. Puto said 27 political prisoners re-

mained in jail.
About 200 Albanians fled to neighbouring Yugoslavia Saturday, the Yugoslav News Agency. Tanjug, reported. Thousands of Albanians have fled their homeland since December, apparently mistrustful of their government's

Since its founding, the Democratie Party has ridden a wave of anger at decades of Stalinist repression and isolation from the outside world to mount a series of exuberant rallies. Alia, 66, exuded little of the

same outward confidence when he appeared Friday at a news conference and declined to specify whether he would step down if his Party of of Labour loses.

However, at a later rally, Alia expressed confidence that bis party would triomph and continue to dominate public life, as it has since 1944. The opposition has complained

that the Communists have used

their control of security forces to barass Democratic Party candidates and campaigners, particularly in outlying villages.

European parliameotarians complained about Communist

domination of the media. "It's not too early to say that the Communists have dominated television and exploited the presence of foreign observers to give

respectability to the elections, by showing them trooping in one after the other to pay court to Alia," said Lord Nicholas Bethel, a British Conservative in Tirana with a group of European parliamentarians.

30 Bangladeshi women MPs elected unopposed

DHAKA (R) — The Bangladesh seats in the country's first free parliament has achieved its full elections on Feb. 27, offered strength of 330 members with the election unopposed of 30 women

to reserved seats, the election commission said Sunday. The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) headed by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia nominated 28 BNP candidates

and two from the fundamentalist Jamaat-E-Islami Party, it said. "All the women nominees were elected to their reserved

seats uncontested Saturday," a commission statement said. Under Bangladeshi election rules, the 300 parliamentarians would have been required to vote if there were more than 30 candi-

Political sources said the BNP.

Jamaat two seats as a reward for supporting Khaleda. BNP has 12 seats short of an

absolute majority but Jamaat,

with 18 seats, promised to back Khaleda. The elections followed the Deeember resignation of President Hossain Mohammad Ershad,

charged with keeping illegal firearms and amassing wealth through corrupt means. Awami League chief Sheikh

Hasina, parliamentary opposition leader, said she would take to the streets if the new government failed to restore a parliamentary system of administration. Parliament is due to convene

on April 5 but the government is which won the largest number of already facing problems prospects

serve them.

Bronx, one of New York's toughest neighbourhoods. But nothing

Los Angeles' black officers divided over motorist beating

man rights lawyer.

LOS ANGELES (AP) - The largest organisation of black Los Anecles police officers says racism does not exist within the 8.500-member department. But a and cleaning up inner city neighsplinter group of black officers bourhoods. Bakewell is also inand an outspoken community leader say it does.

The spin among the department's 1,300 black members was sparked by the March 3 videotape that shows white officers beating black motorist Rodney King. Highly publicised racial slurs

made by the policemen who bear King have made the incident even more personal to some balck Los Angeles officers.

As the King beating continues to simmer under a nationwide spotlight, black officers are stepping forward to say bigotry is alive in the Los Angeles Police Department.

Last week, officer Janine Bouey told of white colleagues leaving a calling eard from the Ku-Klux Klan on her widshield two years ago. Officer Carl McGill, head of the recently formed African-American Peace Officers Association, said discrimination complaints he has made during a six-year tenure have been ignored or used against him by the department.

"Nobody is acting in our behaif," said McGill, whose association numbers 40 LAPD memhers, as well as firefighters, sherif's deputies and other law enforcement officers. "The racist tone is set by individuals who hold key positions. If your superior makes racist remarks, where

do you go: Danny Bakewell, president of the group Brotherhood Crusade. said he has heard from more than a dozen "absolutely outraged" black officers who are afraid to come forward.

"That outrage is clearly tempered by survival and underscored by fear." Bakewell said. "If they speak out, there will be clearly focused reprisals."

Brotherhood Crusade is a community activist organisation involved in curbing gang violence volved in efforts to have blacks shop only in black-owned stores in the wake o the shooting death of a black teenager by a Korean

Four white officers have been indicted on charges of assault with a deadly weapon in the attack on King. The videotape of King being kicked, clubbed and shocked with a 50,000-volt stun gun has been seen by millions of television viewers across the Un-

ited States. One of the indicted officers also made racist comments that night, referring to a previous domestic dispute call involving blacks as being "right out of Gorillas in the Mist," a movie

about ape research in Africa. The remarks were contained in publicly released transcripts of patrol car computer messages.

The national uproar created by these incidents highlights a department that prohibited black officers from riding in patrol cars with white colleagues until 1965, more than 10 years after the U.S. Supreme Court autlawed school

segregation. Mayor Tom Bradley, who was the department's first black licutenant before retiring in 1961. said in an interview last week the King beating presents an opportunity to investigate "constant and continuing" complaints from black officers who say they have

been passed over for promotion. Such complaints resulted in a ruling last year by the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing that the department systematically denied promotions and advancements to black offic-

At the centre of the King furour is police chief Daryl F.

Gates - an outspoken leader who was reprimanded nine years ago by the city police commission for saying blacks may be more susceptible than "normal people" to a now-banned law enforcement chokehold.

The mayor. Bakewell and dozens of other politicians and community leaders have asked Gates to step down. The chief refuses to quit.

Standing behind him is the 500-member Oscar Joel Bryant Foundation, named for the first black LAPD officer killed in the line of duty.

"We believe that during the last 15 years, the chief has provided strong leadership," said Sgi. James Craig, foundation president and 10-year department

The opportunity for a black to be promoted in this department is as good as it can be." Craig said. "I believe that there are individuals who have racist attitudes. but racism is not widespread throughout the department."

He added, "obviously, everybody doesn't feel the same way I

Lt. Lyman Doster does. He is a 22 year LAPD veteran and president of the Association of Black Law Enforcement Executives, which represents 15 of the department's 17 blacks who have achieved or surpassed the rank of lieutenant.

'Do I support ebief Gates? You're damn right 1 do." Doster said. "When these calls of Gates being a racist come through. I can't buy it. This is a lynch mob." Doster said his black col-

leagues "feel a sense of betrayal and a whole lot of other things," about racist statements made by the white officers who attacked "But I'm not going to make

this a black-and-white issue of

police brutality," Doster said.

property taxes as the way that LONDON (R) - Britain's opposition Labour Party cam-Britain would finance its local paigned this weekend for an early councils. general election, scenting its best chance in many years to end

The last British head tax provoked the 14th century peasants revolt. A mob lynched the chancellor of the exchequer.

This one also caused rioting, plus a series of sensational byelection defeats for the government. Major is now going to scrap it in what Labour's leader. Neil Kinnock, says is "the biggest climbdown in modern political history.

In the economic recession. firms have been going bust at a rate of 100 each day.

It is blamed on a credit-fuelled consumer boom in the 1980s which helped Thatcher to win the last election but also created high inflation, forcing a subsequent hike in interest rates.

Major says this creidt squeeze is now working. Officials project inflation down at four per cent by year's end from a peak of nearly II. Interest rates are gradually being lowered.

But several independent economists doubt if the recovery will be quick enough to brake a sharp rise in unemployment. Some say that Major might, in

fact, be wise to call Labour's bluff hated poll tax — a levy on every and gamble with a snap election as early as this June, before things look even worse.

ruling party's "It could well be June or bust," say researchers at finance house UBS-Phillips and Drew who think unemployment could be 2.7 million by December. It is around two million now.

Some Conservatives sav, however, that voters would still rally to them if only they stopped giving an impression that they are a divided party - just as Kinnock seems to have tamed the militant lefusts who, in the past, split Labour. "A very British coup" was how

the Times described last year's Conservative revolt against Thatcher. No tanks clanked through Westminster. But it had other classic ingredients of a putsch.

The trigger was rebel ex-Defence Minister Mieheal Heseltine who dared to oppose Thatcher in what should have been a rubber stamp party ballot. He stood on an anti-poll tax ticket.

Major, son of a one-time circus trapeze artist and_at 47. youngest premier this century, then emerged as the man who Conservative elders hoped could heal party divisions.

His mild manner and preference for collegiate decisions, however, which seemed to fit him for that role, have lately brought accusations that he cannot make up his mind.

Stop dithering. John. Name

June now," taunts Labour election organiser John Cunningham, Some Conservatives yearn for Thatchers strident, knockabout parliamentary bullying of Labour's Kinnock.

flambouyant man. Forming a knot in the Conservative Party, Thatcher diehards oppose watering down ber policies.

But, says Major, "I am not a

Their objections to taxing property mean that in replacing the poll tax Major is having to opt for a compromise hybrid - a property tax weighted by the number of people in each home.

"Is he going to have twins?" cried Kinnock, rubbing salt in Conservative wounds. Labour glee bubbled over when Major's ex-boss, Nigel Lawson, got up to knife him from

the Conservative back benches

for seeming to dither on poll tax reform. Lawson, who was once chancellor of the exchequer when Major was the treasury number two. observed that "to appear to be unable to choose is to appear to

be unable to govern. A furious Major finally bared his teeth and publicly rebuked Lawson. That was the best thing that had happened in the government all week, said one Conservative commentator.



Chrysler chief weds for 3rd time

LOS ANGELES (R) - Lee lacocca, the chairman of the Chrylser Corporation and one of the most visible figures in the U.S. car industry, has married for the third time. Iacocca, 66, and his 42-year-old bride, Darrien Earle, a Los Angeles restaurateur, were married in the Beverly Hills estate of his friend and former business partner Allen Paulson. The wedding ceremony was a private affair with only close friends and family invited, one of the guests, who declined to be named, said. Earle wore a white, chiffon dress. The couple intend to live in Iacocca's Detroit mansion.

Boy invents electric spaghetti fork

LONDON (R) — An 11-year-old British boy bas won a £100 (\$175) prize for ioventing a rotating electric fork that twirls spaghetti. "I love spaghetti, but like everyone else, I have trouble keeping it on the fork, so I thought my invention would help solve the problem," Mattbew Spink said after winning the award at a national inventors' contest.

Computer model of Sphinx hailed

CHICAGO (AP) — The passage of time and bordes of tourists are gradually tearing away at the: great Sphinx of Egypt. But com-.. puter technology bas produced a companion that's impervious to these ravages - a computer model of the 1.500-year-old marvel. It's the most elaborate computer model made for archaeological purposes. "Now that we have a first-class job, we can learn how to skimp on the costs," said Farouk Al Baz, director of Boston University's Centre for Remote Sensing. Mark Lehner of the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute used advanced photography to survey the Sphinx from 1979 to 1983. The photos then were turned into line graphs and an architect loaded the material into a computer to create a model. "You can look at it from any direction — from above. below and fom the sides." Lebner said. Archaeologists say that development is important because bad weather, eager tourists, crystallising salt and rising water levels are wearing away at the Sphinx. "It's always best to see something preserved in its original state. But if that can't be done, the next best thing is to put it on paper," said Peter Manuelian of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Katherine Bard, an archaeologist at Boston University, said: "all the monuments in Egypt are going to pieces. This new technology is helping to pre-

Man tries to steal police car - with officer inside

NEW YORK (AP) - Transit

police officer John Rankin

thought be'd seen the city's wil-

dest side after five years of pat-

rolling subways in the south

prepared Rankin for the man. who tried to steal the officer's marked patrol car - with his uniformed partner sitting in the passenger seat. "It's the first time this has ever happened," the sur-prised officer said. Rankin left his partner, Daniel Daly, parked in the brand new white and blue radio car while he dashed into a uniform shop Thursday evening. While he was in the store, ' couple of kids came in, yelling 'the cop needs help.'" said Rankin. He ran outside and found a man on a bicycle leaning through the driver's side window. "I figured he was the guy struggling with my partner," the officer said. Rankin pulled the bicyclist away, only to discover that he was a good Samaritian trying to help Daly, who was struggling with "a guy in the driver's seat. trying to steal my car." The man. later identified as Aundray Burns, 26, was behind the wheel. trying to put the patrol car in gear. Rankin said. "It was rather weird. I thought 'what the hell is going on here? Who is this guy in my seat?" Rankin said. "I have no idea what was going through his mind." After a brief struggle. the two officers managed to arrest the suspect and pull bim from the driver's seat. The officers and Burns were treated and released at a nearby hospital for minor injuries. Burns was charged with attempted robbery. assault and resisting arret. One thing puzzled rankin. 'It's something I'll never forget," Rankin

said. "He didn't even bave a

license on bim."